Scopus

Scopus is a multi-subject database from Elsevier. It claims to be the world's largest abstract and citation database of peer-reviewed literature and quality web sources.

- Contains 46 million records, 70% with abstracts
- Nearly 19,500 titles from 5,000 publishers worldwide
- Includes over 4.6 million conference papers

Accessing the Database

Connect to **http://www.scopus.com/home.url**.

If you are off campus look the database up in the library catalogue and follow the link - you will need to enter your university username and password. (This is the same as for email and other university services).

Searching

Basic

Identify the key terms contained in your topic and also any alternative terms which describe your subject. Type a word or phrase in the search box. Then click on **Search.**

Wildcards

Use a truncation symbol (*) to pick up all possible endings, e.g. comput* to pick up computer, computers, computing, etc

Advanced search tips

1. It is possible to limit your search to articles in a particular year using the date range options.
2. If you get too many results, try searching in the article title – change the drop down menu after in on the search screen. If a word is in the title of an article the article is likely to be relevant.
3. You can search for a particular type of article, for example, a review using the document type options.
4. You can combine more than one term using **and**, **or** or **not**.

Narrow your search by using **and** e.g. nanotechnology **and** medicine
This only finds records which contain both the word nanotechnology and the word medicine.

Broaden your search by using **or** e.g. disaster **or** accident
This will retrieve records which contain the word disaster, the word accident or both words.

Exclude a term from the records you retrieve by using **andnot** e.g. "alternative energy" **andnot** waves
This will find records which contain the words alternative energy but exclude any which mention waves.

5. **Phrase searching** – putting words into quotation marks as "alternative energy" in the example above, forces the database to treat them as a phrase and only look for the two words together.

6. **Search within –** once you have carried out a search you will see the option to search within results at the left of the screen. This allows you to add in another term to focus your search further. For example, if you had searched for alternative energy you might decide that you are only interested in solar energy and you can now add in that term.

Results Tools

The Results Tools box at the left of the screen allows you to filter your search results. It will give you a list of the most common subjects, authors, keywords etc. so you can choose to view only results which contain the term you select. The language option may be useful if you wish to view only articles in English.

Displaying Search Results

1. Click on the article title to see more detail (note that Scopus does not include the full text of articles but may include a download pdf option if the document is in our Science Direct subscription).
2. The Scopus documents are the most reliable references in Scopus. The More tab shows references they have found via citations in articles within Scopus – these are less reliable though may still be worth viewing. The web tab gives some web resources.
3. button will find any online version which is available or link you to our library catalogue to see if we have a print version
4. You can print, e-mail or export records to packages such as Word or EndNote using the buttons at the top of the result list. You can also use My List to store your results – you will be asked to create a username and password.

Help

On-line help is available by clicking on Help at the top of the screen.

For further help please contact your subject librarian. Staff at the Information Desk will find us for you or e-mail **library@swansea.ac.uk**.

For alternative formats please contact
Tel: 01792 295697 Email: library@swansea.ac.uk