Environment and Life Science Information Sources

As a member of The University of Salford you have access to a wide range of academic resources. This includes books, DVDs, journals, databases, theses, newspaper articles and past exam papers. This guide outlines information sources relevant to Environment and Life Science subjects and shows you how to access them.

How do I find resources?
All library resources, both in print and electronic format, are accessible via the SOLAR Library Search. SOLAR is the gateway to the Library’s information resources in both print and electronic form.

To access SOLAR, go directly to: http://students.salford.ac.uk/ and choose the SOLAR Library Search link under the Library & Learning Support tab. Then:

1. Sign into SOLAR for full functionality (network username and password is required)
2. Select the tab according to the material you are searching for
3. Type in your keywords or an author and/or a title and run the search

Once you have done a search, you can filter your results using the tabs down the left-hand side of the screen to limit to certain types of resources.

For more information on how to use SOLAR, see the full help guide here: http://www.salford.ac.uk/library/help/user-guides/general/SOLAR-March15.pdf

Tip: Spend some time planning your search strategy, identifying keywords and deciding what types of information you need before starting your search, as this will help you get more relevant results. Find out more about how to plan a search strategy here: http://www.salford.ac.uk/library/help/user-guides/general/Search-Strategy-Feb14.pdf.

Finding books
To find both print and electronic books that we have available in SOLAR, select the Books & more tab, enter your keywords or the author and/or the title and run the search. A list of books will appear.
If it is available in print it will say **Get It** underneath the title. Click on this to find the class number. The class number will look like this: **345.778 SMI**. This shows you where it can be found in the library. For further information on class numbers, see the full help guide here: [http://www.salford.ac.uk/library/help/user-guides/general/class.pdf](http://www.salford.ac.uk/library/help/user-guides/general/class.pdf).

If it is available as an electronic book, it will say **View It**. Click on this and it will direct you to the log in page (network username and password is required). Once you have logged in you will gain access to the full electronic book.

You will also have a reading list for each of your modules. This can be accessed through Blackboard (in your module area) and will indicate core and further reading for your course.

**Finding journals**

To find a specific journal, use the SOLAR search, switch the tab to **Books & more** and type in the title of the journal and click search. If we have the journal in stock, the title will appear. You will be able to tell whether it is a journal from the image to the left of the title.

**Finding journal articles**

To do a general search for electronic journal articles that we have available in SOLAR, select the **Articles & more** tab, enter keywords, author or title and run the search. A list of articles from a range of different journals will appear.

**Please note:** The title of the **article** appears first and is in **blue font**. The **journal** that the article comes from will be listed beneath the article title and will be preceded by a date, a volume number, an issue number and page numbers.

**Finding Dissertations and Theses**

To find dissertations and theses written by Salford University students, select the advanced Solar search here:

![SOLAR Library Search](image)

Enter your keywords and then change **Material Type** to either dissertations or theses (depending on what you are looking for):

![SOLAR Library Search](image)

You can then view them by clicking on the **View It** link.

**Please note:** There is sometimes an exception to this, where full access has to be requested. To do this, click on Request and enter your details as required.
Using databases
What is a database?
If you want to find more specific journal articles and other research on a certain subject area, you will need to use a subject database. Some subject databases provide full text access to resources, whilst others provide bibliographic information only.

How do I access a database?
In SOLAR, click on the Databases tab (top right of screen):

And then:
Click on the titles listed to see what they hold. To access them select either on campus access if you are at University or off campus access if you are at home.

Key subject databases for Environment and Life Science subjects
These are just a few of the key databases in SOLAR which specialise in your subject area and they provide access to high quality, peer-reviewed resources. These databases are not available freely via the web (you will not find these resources on Google!).

➤ **Academic Search Premier**
Academic Search Premier contains full text for more than 4,600 academic journals on a range of topics. It is useful for all Environment and Life Science subjects.

➤ **Barbour Index**
Barbour contains official and advisory documents in the fields of Health & Safety, Environmental Health, Fire Safety and Food Safety.

➤ **CINAHL**
CINAHL covers health subjects and biomedicine and has over 250,000 records.

➤ **Credo Literati**
Credo Literati contains topic pages, images, journal articles and book chapters. It is particularly useful for Wildlife, Geography and Environment subject areas.

➤ **Digimap (Environment and Historic)**
Digimap contains Ordnance Survey map data of any location in Great Britain. Useful for Geography and Environment subject areas.
➢ **GreenFILE**  
GreenFILE includes content on global warming, green building, pollution, sustainable agriculture, renewable energy and recycling.

➢ **Medline**  
Medline provides authoritative medical information on medicine, the health care system, pre-clinical sciences and lots more.

➢ **Nexis Business and News**  
Nexis Business and News contains a comprehensive collection of world-wide newspapers, news services and company data.

➢ **National Statistics**  
National Statistics allows you to search the latest comprehensive range of official UK statistics and information about statistics.

➢ **PubMed**  
PubMed covers biomedical and life sciences journal literature.

➢ **ScienceDirect**  
ScienceDirect contains science, technology and medicine full text and bibliographic information. It is useful for all Environment and Life Science subjects.

➢ **Web of Science**  
Web of Science is useful for all Environment and Life Science subjects.

The databases hold a variety of different types of materials. To see what type of information a database holds, click on the Show Info tab next to the title and this will tell you. There are often help pages in most databases that you can access for more information.

**Off campus access**
You can access the vast majority of electronic information sources off campus by using your network username and password (the same one you use to access Blackboard).

A small number of databases have a separate username and password. You will know which ones they are because it will tell you when you click on the title, under Access here:

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ScienceDirect
On campus link to database
Off campus link to database
Access
Network username and password required off-campus.
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For further help with accessing resources off campus, please see the webpage here: [http://www.salford.ac.uk/library/use/adios-athens](http://www.salford.ac.uk/library/use/adios-athens) or contact your Academic Support Librarian.
Can’t find what you need?
If you need a resource that The Library does not hold, you have a number of options:

- If it is a journal article or a book, you can request it using the **Document Delivery service**. For further information, please see the web page here: http://www.salford.ac.uk/library/use/document-delivery.
  
  **Please note**: There is a non-refundable charge for this service.

- If it is a book, you can contact your **Library Champion** and request that we purchase it for the library. For further information, please see the web page here: http://www.salford.ac.uk/library/help/library-champions.

- If it is a book, you can also use the **You want it? We’ll get it! service**. For further information, please see the web page here: http://www.salford.ac.uk/library/use/you-want-it-well-get-it

Want to visit another university library?
As a member of the University of Salford you can sign up to use the Sconul Access scheme. This is free and allows students from one member institution to access the library of another member institution. There are 186 institutions across the UK which are part of this scheme. For further information, and to see a list of the institutions involved, please see here: http://www.sconul.ac.uk/.

Further help and assistance
You can contact your Academic Support Librarian, Tracy Breheny, for help with using the library, finding resources or to arrange a one-to-one appointment.

📞 +44 (0) 161 295 6678  📧 t.m.breheny@salford.ac.uk

We also have lots of help and information about a range of library and study skills on our Skills for Learning webpages. This includes eLearning packages, interactive learning tools, videos and help guides and they can all be found here: http://www.salford.ac.uk/skills-for-learning.