SEARCHING FOR SECONDARY SOURCES

Secondary sources can be found in library databases and scholarly search engines. Databases contain citations and abstracts to journal articles, books, and more. Many include the full text of articles or links to full text through the Find It button. Access databases through the Research Guides (http://libguides.brynmawr.edu) or the Databases A-Z list (http://libguides.brynmawr.edu/a-z) to be sure you are connecting through Bryn Mawr’s campus network.

See the SOWK 585 research guide (http://libguides.brynmawr.edu/sowk-585), Overview and Legal Reference pages, for links to suggested databases and academic search engines for this course, including several that are specifically geared toward the legal profession (American Jurisprudence 2d, law review databases, etc.)

For books, search Tripod (http://tripod.brynmawr.edu). If you find a reference to a book that we do not have, we can usually get it for you. Search EZ-Borrow, or make an Interlibrary Loan request for the book. See the Interlibrary Loan page on the SOWK 585 research guide for more information (http://libguides.brynmawr.edu/sowk-585/ill).

A note about Google Scholar

Google Scholar is a free multidisciplinary search engine for scholarly journal articles, books, and academic papers, and more. When accessed through our campus network (click our access link here: http://libguides.brynmawr.edu/az.php?q=google+scholar), it will show Find It @ Bryn Mawr links that connect you to full-text when available.

To search, either use the basic search bar or click the arrow to expand the advanced search screen for options like searching in the title of the article only or by publication date range.

Google Scholar searches a very wide range of sources, but does not allow for as sophisticated advanced searching as some of the library’s subscription databases. Using shorter, simpler search phrases and repeatedly revising a search will yield the best results in Google Scholar.
Getting full text

When you find an abstract in a database that interests you, but the full text PDF is not immediately available, here are some steps to take:

- Click the Find It button or link to see if the article is available to us from some other source
- Search the exact article title in Tripod Articles and follow the Find It links
- Search the exact article title in Google Scholar and Google.com to see if there is an open access or pre-publication version of the article online somewhere
- Put in an Interlibrary Loan request for the article (More info: http://libguides.brynmawr.edu/bmcill)

Plan ahead, some ILL requests may take several business days to complete.

OFF-CAMPUS ACCESS

For access to some full-text sources, you will need to connect from our campus network. You can do this from off-campus by going through the library’s proxy server. Links from Tripod and the Research Guides will automatically prompt you to log in if you are off campus. Or, log in directly on the Off-Campus Access page: http://www.brynmawr.edu/library/offcampus.html

GETTING HUMAN HELP

Librarians are available to help you with your research. We are available for quick answers or for more in-depth, personalized research consultations.

- Email: Send questions or appointment requests to library@brynmawr.edu or via the form on our “Ask a Librarian” page (http://www.brynmawr.edu/library/ask.html). We answer emails within 24 hours, and usually faster!

- In-person: Make a one-on-one appointment with a librarian during regular business hours. Click the Make an appointment link on the library website (http://www.brynmawr.edu/library).

- Phone: Call us at 610-526-5279