

Welcome to this video on finding library resources. To start your library research, use Omni. Omni, the library's discovery layer will help you find books, articles, videos, maps, primary sources and all other library materials that you can't find elsewhere on the internet. As a student at York University, you are able to access high quality academic research that the library buys access to using a portion of your tuition fees. All of these resources will help you find the information you need for your assignments.

There are a lot of ways to search for resources using OMNI. So what do you do if you are just starting out your research?

Say you have an assignment on the use of films in fascist Italy and Germany...how can you use Omni to help you?

First, go to the library website at Library.Yorku.ca. Here's where you can begin working with Omni.

Click on advanced search and then add your keywords and connectors (should this be search statement?) To learn about the connectors AND /OR, we have a short video that can help you master them. You can find it under our How-to Videos page.

For our example, let's use something like: cinema OR film* OR movie* fascism OR fascist* OR Hitler OR Mussolini Italy OR Germany.

By default, the search is set to check our collections at York as well as the collections of other Omni libraries. If you only want to look at resources from York Libraries, [click here](#).

You can change the search option by [clicking here](#). For example, if you know your keywords are subject headings, you can select that to make it more focused. If you're not sure what you want to search by, you can keep the default option of "any field."

Also notice OR is in capitals which helps Omni understand your search. And we used the asterix *for truncation (or looking for multiple endings or variations in spelling). And a third row can be added by click on "Add a new line."

There are about 93,952 results. You can sort through these results using the filters on the left. To limit to books and online – use your FACET limits on the left-hand side. This will focus your results even more.

What are facets? Consider a cube. Facets are the many sides, and angles that this sort of shape can have. Library resources such as books or articles also have facets. Facets are the many ways these resources can be described from different angles. Facets can be used to search or sort your results by certain criteria.

Some important filters are: content type (like books and ebooks, or articles), availability, peer reviewed journals, publication date, and available in york libraries.

Review your list of results to check if you're happy with them. If you find that the results have great books but aren't returning the sort of article you are looking for, there might be a reason why.

Omni searches a lot of databases at once, but it doesn't search all of the databases that you have access to through the library.

For example, the following databases are not searched by Omni: Fine Arts, Art & Architecture Source, Music Index Humanities, Historical Abstracts, MLA Bibliography Social Sciences, Anthropology Plus, Women's Studies International Health & Sciences, CINAHL, SciFinder Environmental Studies Environment Complete, and GreenFile.

Let's use our sample topic again to search using databases not available in Omni.

To find all available history databases, click on "research guides". Click on the "Subject" tab. Click on "History." Select history general. Click on the finding articles tab and Find "Historical Abstracts" in the list of databases. In Historical Abstracts, the same search strategy can be used. Limiting to English Language is helpful in this case. 176 records are retrieved. Not all are available online, so look for the HTML or PDF full-text icons.

Now, what if you have a specific resource you are looking for. For example, what if your professor suggested you find "Cinema and fascism Italian film and society, 1922-1943" by Steven Ricci.

You can copy and paste the title into the Omni bar and run a quick search. It looks like the book is right here, we can tell because it says "BOOK" on the record information. Let's quickly verify that it is the right one by checking the author. Yep, looks good. So where can we get this book? Well, there is a physical copy in Scott Library, and here is the call number we would need to locate it. There's also an online version we could access through ACLS Humanities eBook by clicking right here under view online. We can access the ebook version by clicking the ACLS Humanities eBook link under view online.

You can also find articles the same way if you know their title!

If you are stuck, have questions, or need some guidance, please check out all the ways to get help! The link is available on the main page of the library website. Or you could take a look at our helpful videos under the How To Video page. Good luck with your research!