**CPLA Easy Search**

**http://www.library.illinois.edu/cpla/**

**About CPLA Easy Search**

CPLA Easy Search is a search and discovery tool that allows you to simultaneously search more than one database. It provides access to many databases (some general and some specific) and resources that serve as a starting point to help you discover where you can find information about your topic. It is by no means intended to be comprehensive since there are many literature databases available it does not search, which can be found at the Library’s [A - Z Databases](http://www.library.illinois.edu/) website.

### Access:

From the CPLA Library homepage ([http://www.library.illinois.edu/cpla/](http://www.library.illinois.edu/cpla/))

### Types of searches:

1. **Brief search**: Single search field that can be searched by keywords (default), title, and author (see drop down box)
2. **Advanced search**: Links to the main University Library Gateway’s Easy Search tool where you can identify what resources are being searched, select resources from a variety of subject areas, and find more search tips to help you hone your search strategy.

### Boolean Operators:

To limit results: use **AND** to find articles with both terms (x AND y)

To broaden results: use **OR** to find articles with either term (x OR y)

To eliminate some terms: use **NOT** to find articles with one term but not the other (x NOT y)

**Note**: CPLA Easy Search defaults to AND searches. If you search for “landscape architecture,” CPLA Easy Search interprets it as “landscape AND architecture.”

### Phrase searching:

To search for a specific phrase, surround the phrase with quotes “ ”.

### Title searching:

To search for a specific title phrase, surround the phrase with quotes “ “ and select **Title** in the drop-down menu.

### Results Page:

The “Suggestions” box at the top of the page may suggest a relevant LibGuide (a subject-specific research guide), a specific and relevant database or journal, and a list of related terms that you can add to your search or start a new search with. It also has a link to the “Ask a Librarian” chat reference service, which will summon the online aid of a reference librarian.

Below the Suggestions box is the list of results, including all of the matches found in the various databases and online resources that are included in CPLA Easy Search. For a full list of what is included in the CPLA Easy Search, please see the back page of this handout. Each “matches” result is a link that will open in a new tab or page and take you to the results page of the specific resource. Once you are within a resource, it may be beneficial to narrow your search by time period, format, subject area, etc.

### Choosing search terms

1. Choose specific terms closely related to your research topic.
2. Choose terms that you might use when discussing your topic with a colleague, including current jargon.
3. Include synonyms and abbreviations.
4. This search is not case sensitive.
5. CPLA Easy Search also finds variant spellings and forms of a word.

### If you need assistance, contact a Funk Library librarian!

**Phone:**
217.333.2416

**E-mail:**
aceslib@library.illinois.edu

**Hours:**
[http://www.library.illinois.edu/](http://www.library.illinois.edu/)
What You’re Searching When You Use CPLA Easy Search:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Resources</th>
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| **Journal & Magazine Articles**  | Academic Search Premier PLUS (EBSCO); Academic Onefile (InfoTrac); Scopus; Web of Science  
General, broad databases, good for sweeping searches of a variety of resources. |
| **Current News Sources**         | Wall Street Journal (1984-present); New York Times (1995-present); Chicago Tribune (1985-present); Access work News (Newsbank); Newspaper Source; Google News  
Newspaper and online news resources. Good for recent and current journalistic perspectives. |
| **Engineering Resources**        | Compendex (Engineering Index); IEEE Explore  
Specific subject resources. Good for narrowing your search by subject area. |
| **Social Sciences Resources**    | Avery Index to Architectural Periodicals; Garden, Landscape & Horticulture Literature Index; Urban Studies Abstracts; Council of Planning Librarians (CPL) Bibliographies; TRANweb; Transportation Research Board; TRB Publications Index  
Specific subject resources. Good for narrowing your search |
| **Books, Ebooks, & Media in UIUC & Illinois Libraries** | UIUC Library Classic Catalog; UIUC Library VuFind+ Catalog; I-Share Library Catalog [state-wide Illinois, academic]; Springer Ebooks; Elsevier Ebooks; Wiley Ebooks; Google Books; Hathi Trust Ebooks; IDEALS [UIUC Reports, Papers, Theses, Dissertations]; Amazon Books  
Comprehensive search of all physical and electronic books that UIUC library patrons have access to. |
| **Images**                       | Library of Congress Image Search; National Portrait Gallery; Flickr; USA.gov images; NYPL Digital Gallery; V&A Images; British Library Images; Images Canada; NASA Images; Earth Science World Image Bank; Fish & Wildlife Digital Library; Getty Images; David Rumsey Map Collection; Photobank Images; Springerlink Images; UIUC ContentDM Collections; CARLI Digital Collections; Illinois Harvest; World Digital Library; Europeana; National Park Service; National Archives; Smithsonian Institution; Emilio Segre Visual Archives; AGSL photo archive; Animal Science Image Gallery; VADS; ShareShelf Commons  
A variety of image resources and databases for when text alone is not enough. |
A variety of reference resources that are good for definitions, vocabulary, and basic factual information. |
| **Web Search Engines**           | Google; Bing; Google Scholar  
Internet search engines. |