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**News from the Library...
What "Google Scholar" Can Do For You
<http://scholar.google.com>**

What is Google Scholar and how is it different from Google?

Unlike the regular Google search engine that searches broadly across the Internet, **Google Scholar** looks for **scholarly literature** in the discipline of your choice. Results from a Google Scholar search can include peer-reviewed papers, theses, books, abstracts and articles. Search results are drawn from academic publishers, professional

Also, searching your own articles on Google Scholar can tell you where and how your work has been cited.

societies, preprint repositories, universities and other scholarly organizations.

What do the search results mean?

Each search result represents not just one article, but a BODY of scholarly work. For example, one search result may consist of a preprint, a conference proceeding, and a journal article, all of which are associated with a single research effort.

(Over, please)

I would like to learn more about Google Scholar. Please contact me so that I can set up a personal consultation.

Name _____

Extension _____

Please return this form to Ms. Elaine Wells in the Library, or just stop by to set up an appointment.

What other features can I expect to find in Google Scholar?

- , Google Scholar has an “Advanced Scholar Search” feature that allows you to search by word or phrase, title, author, publication, date, and/or general subject area. **This can be particularly useful when you want to track how one of your articles has been cited.**
- , Google Scholar enables you to link directly to the abstract or full-text (as available) of the works that it finds, and connects you to its general search engine for wider Internet searching. In addition, Google Scholar includes links to British Library Direct where articles can be purchased for automatic download by personal credit card.

Are there any drawbacks to Google Scholar?

Of course! Despite an impressive array of search results, it is important to remember that:

- , A great deal if not MOST scholarly information is still not available online. Not all publishers and scholarly societies contribute their holdings to Google Scholar.
- , It cannot be searched by format, so for example you cannot search for a thesis as opposed to an article.
- , You cannot limit to full-text retrieval. You don't know what you're getting until you click on the search result.

And remember, it is more cost-effective to ask the Library to get an article for you than to buy it from British Library Direct.

As always, if you are looking for a specific document, it is still best to consult a librarian. The Library has databases that are far more sensitive and specific than Google Scholar. However, Google Scholar is an excellent way of seeing how a body of scientific work is produced, and can be a quick, easy and no-cost way to see how your articles are being cited and used to further scientific inquiry.