

How to Find German Materials

GENERAL SEARCHING TECHNIQUES

- When doing *keyword* searches, try both the English and German words.
- Try searching the adjective form of countries (e.g., German as well as Germany)
- Truncate the country name (e.g., German* for Germany, German, etc.)
- Use **Boolean Keyword** searching (AND, OR) to search for forms of the country's name (using OR) and combine it with some aspect of that country in which you are interested:

EXAMPLE: (Switzerland or Swiss) and politics
Architecture and (Austria or Austrian)

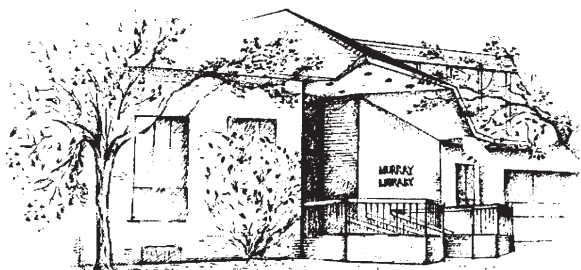
- When searching by title, don't include initial articles (der, die, das, ein, eine...)
- When searching for compound names (e.g., Johann Wolfgang von Goethe), try searching the name in various forms (e.g., whole name "von Goethe" but also just "Goethe")

I. SEARCHING FOR BOOKS (ALSO DVDS, RECORDINGS, ETC.) IN THE LIBRARY CATALOG

NOTE: To limit to items in German, click on **Advanced** search tab, then select "German" from the dropdown menu next to Language

- For works about Germans, German culture, literature, etc., click on **Subject** search tab and type in the following terms (allows you to browse all subjects beginning with those terms):
 - German American [Germans in the U.S.]
 - Pennsylvania Dutch [Pennsylvania Dutch or Amish living in PA]
 - Pennsylvania German [for the language spoken by Amish et al.]
 - German [anything German; retrieves many books and other materials]
- For genres of German literature (both anthologies of it and materials about it), click on **Subject** search tab and type subject headings "German poetry", "German drama", etc. (Note: This will bring up materials in both English and German.)

You can also search for German American literature
- Also, search literature of specific German-speaking countries: Austrian literature, Swiss literature, etc.
- For *DVDs and videos* that the German department has ordered, click on **Subject** search tab and type in: "Modern languages (Media)-German"



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II. SEARCHING FOR BOOKS (ALSO DVDS, RECORDINGS, ETC.) IN WORLDCAT

- WorldCat is an excellent resource for materials in any language that we may not have but that you can order through Interlibrary Loan
- Use the same keywords, subject headings, and strategies you use in the Library's catalog (see I above).
- Searching keywords and phrases in WorldCat may help you find articles or chapters listed in contents notes.

III. SEARCHING FOR ARTICLES

- Select a database by clicking on “Find...Articles/Databases/Subjects” link on the Library home page. Remember: *Depending on the topic, many databases could produce useful information.* However, here a couple that are generally used:
 - *MLA Bibliography* (for language and literature)
 - *Historical Abstracts* (for German history) and *America: History and Life* (for German New World history)
 - *DigiZeitschriften* (for German academic articles)
 - *SocIndex* (for culture and ethnographic research), includes many core journals.
 - *Columbia International Affairs Online* (for politics)
 - *Communication and Mass Media Complete* (for German popular culture, film, etc.)

IV. JOURNALS IN GERMAN AVAILABLE AT MESSIAH

In print format: The library subscribes to 1 German-language periodical, *Der Spiegel*. In addition, 2 periodicals--*Die Unterrichtspraxis* and *The German Quarterly*—include some German-language articles.

Electronically: In the Library catalog, a **Boolean Keyword** search for “Deutsche and Periodicals” results many German language periodicals which are available in databases available from the Library home page. Also try doing a Subject search for “Modern Languages (Periodicals)” (by clicking on **Subject** search tab).

V. NEWSPAPERS IN GERMAN AVAILABLE AT MESSIAH

- Links to newspapers from many countries of the world are available online from the Library home page under “Find...Articles/Databases/Subjects” → Modern Languages
 1. German-language newspapers: In *Newslink* and *Newsbank*
 2. English-language newspapers in Germany and other German-speaking countries: In *World-Newspapers.com*.