REFERENCE SOURCES FOR RESEARCHING THE SENSES


WHAT ABOUT WIKIPEDIA? “the free encyclopedia that anyone can edit”

Articles may help you develop or refine your ideas, and the notes and references may lead to additional sources, but keep in mind that the “crowd-sourced” nature of Wikipedia means that while the information may be immensely useful, it’s not necessarily scholarly, authoritative, or the type of source to include in a bibliography for an academic paper.

FINDING BOOKS AND OTHER LIBRARY MATERIALS

OBIS is the Oberlin College Library’s online catalog; it lists most library materials. OBIS is searchable by **Author** or **Title** for a specific author or work, or by **Subject Heading** or **Keyword** for works about a topic, person, place, etc.

For **Subject Heading** searches – selected potentially useful Library of Congress Subject Headings:

- Auditory perception
- Binocular rivalry
- Camouflage (Biology)
- Chemical senses
- Color blindness
- Color vision
- Computer vision
- Echolocation (Physiology)
- Face perception
- Flavor
- Food – Sensory evaluation
- Hallucinations and illusions
- Hallucinogenic drugs
- Hearing
- Olfactory sensors
- Intersensory effects
- Night vision
- Optical art
- Optical instruments
- Perception
- Perception (Philosophy)
- Rainbows
- Senses and sensation
- Sensory stimulation
- Smell
- Synesthesia
- Taste
- Touch
- Vision
- Visual perception

Use **KEYWORD** and **ADVANCED** searches to search for words or phrases:

examples: blindsight sensory substitution visual or vision or sight
USING DATABASES TO FIND ARTICLES IN SCHOLARLY, ACADEMIC JOURNALS

Connect from Databases tab on the Library home page search box, or use the Quick Links drop-down menu

Multidisciplinary: Academic Search Complete
Art: Art Full Text
Design & Applied Arts Index

Medicine, health: MEDLINE (EBSCO version)

Philosophy: Philosopher’s Index
PhilPapers

Popular culture: Communication & Mass Media Complete
Psychology: PsycINFO

Sciences (all of ‘em): Web of Science

☞ To determine if the library has a particular journal, Use “360 Link to Full Text” or “Find It!” when available in research databases, or search for the title in Journal Finder tab on Library home page or from the Quick Links pull-down menu

SUMMON – first tab on library home page search box

• searches across the spectrum of library content: books, scholarly articles, newspapers, audio, video, images, data, government documents, and more; searches most, but not all, library resources
• draws from OBIS, full text and article indexing databases, and digital repositories from colleges, universities, research centers, and other open-access archives
• comprehensive or complex searches should be done in subject-specific databases
• OBIS and OhioLINK are generally better for finding books
• if links don’t lead to full text, be persistent or ask for help; we sometimes do have access

CITING YOUR SOURCES  for more help, choose “For Students” (under “Services” on library home page), then “Citation Help

Purdue Online Writing Lab (aka the OWL). Maintained by Perdue University.
https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/
See the Research and Citation section for examples of how to cite resources using APA, MLA, and Chicago citation styles.

HOW TO GET MATERIALS NOT AVAILABLE AT OBERLIN

OhioLINK/SearchOhio

• combines the holdings of 120 colleges and university libraries, and 28 public library systems, in Ohio
☞ does not include delivery of journal articles – see section below on ILL
• to request: do-it-yourself online searching and requesting
• Barcode is the number on the back of your OCID (not your T-number)
• how long it takes: allow 3-4 business days
• loan period: 3 weeks + up to 6 three-week renewals if item has not been requested by someone else

Interlibrary Loan (ILL or ILLiad)

• use for: articles in journals not available at Oberlin, books not available from OhioLINK
• how it works: libraries lend materials to each other; journal articles are usually sent as scanned pdfs
• to request: select “ILLiad/Interlibrary Loan” from the Quick Links menu on the Library’s home page; set up an account; enter and track ILL requests online
• how long it takes: allow 1-2 weeks, though many articles arrive much more quickly
• loan period: journal articles are yours to keep; loan period for books varies

HOW TO GET RESEARCH HELP AT THE LIBRARY

**Librarians are available to assist with your research projects:**
✓ Help focus and define research topics
✓ Find information for papers and projects
✓ Locate books, journal articles, and other library materials
✓ Develop effective search strategies for online databases
✓ Identify useful web sites and internet resources
✓ Evaluate the quality of web sites and other information sources
✓ Track down facts and statistical data
✓ Learn how to use the library and its resources

**Drop-in help at the Main Library Research Desk.** Just stop by and tell us what you need
Monday–Thursday: 10am–noon, 1–5pm, & 7pm–midnight
Friday: 10am–noon & 1–5pm
Weekend: Sat.: 2–4 pm, Sunday: 1–5pm & 7 pm–midnight

**IM.** Chat online with a member of Oberlin’s reference staff (ObieRef) – hours same as above
**Phone.** 440-775-5031 – hours same as above
**Email.** reference@oberlin.edu – any time

**Research appointment.** Sign up online from the library home page

Oberlin College Library. CHC, 11/17