Library Research Services

- **Research Appointments**
  - Meet with a librarian to discuss research strategies and sources for your papers
- **OhioLINK borrowing & Interlibrary Loan (ILLiad)**
  - Get books and articles that aren’t available at Oberlin
- **RefME**
  - Manage your research, notes & create bibliographies

**Books**

**OBIS** is the Oberlin College Library’s online catalog – all items owned or accessed by the OCL system are listed.

- **Keyword**: searches for words or combinations of words that appear *anywhere* in an OBIS record
- **Subject Heading**: searches OBIS records using official Library of Congress Subject Headings for items *about* a topic
  - these can be helpful for understanding how a topic is represented

**The OhioLINK Library Catalog** combines the catalogs of more than 90 libraries at colleges and universities across Ohio. To borrow materials from OhioLINK libraries, use the “Request” button.

**Note**: Your barcode number is on the back of your OCID.

**Background and Context in Reference Sources**

- Gale Virtual Reference Library
- Oxford Reference
- OBIS
  - Advanced Search – Limit Location to Main Library Reference

**Articles in Databases**

There are subject-specific databases for finding specific types of articles:

- Scholarly journals
- Magazines
- Newspapers
Make a Research Plan

• Get background information & context
• Determine what kind(s) of information is needed
  o Books or articles or films, etc.
  o Popular or scholarly or technical
  o Primary sources or secondary sources
• Consider who is likely to produce the information
  o Scholars
  o Journalists
  o Professionals in a field
• Determine which sources will help you find that information
  o Library catalogs
  o Databases
  o Other online resources
• Brainstorm terminology
  o Be flexible and creative
• Search and then re-search