

## LIST OF PLATFORMS AND DATABASES

Focus area: Literature, Language, Culture and Media Studies, Journalism

### TERMINOLOGY:

- Database
- Platform
- Bibliographic database
- Full-text database
- Journal database

### What is a platform – is it like a database?

- **Database** = holds a number of a certain kind of records, e.g. citations to journal articles.
- **Platform** = an interface through which the vendor or publisher provides subscribers with access to a variety of databases. In other words, subscribers can choose which one or more databases on offer on a particular platform to search.

*EbscoHOST* is an example of a **platform**, while **Academic Search Premier** and **Humanities International Complete** are examples of **databases** available via the *EbscoHOST* platform.

### What type of databases do we have access to?

The University library has access to **bibliographic databases** and to full-text (**journal**) **databases**.

- **Bibliographic database** = a database containing records consisting of **descriptions of sources** of information. Such descriptions could include titles, authors, call numbers, subjects, keywords, abstracts, and the citation information, and sometimes the location where the actual resource may be found.

A search in a bibliographic database might therefore deliver results which include a record referring to a **chapter in a book**, records referring to **articles** published in journals, records referring to **conference proceedings**, records referring to **theses and dissertations**, records referring to research notes or archival material, etc.

(See [Wikipedia definition](#))

- **Journal database** = **Journal publishers'** databases usually containing only electronic journals in full-text, or with citations and abstracts, or both.

### PLATFORMS:

PLATFORMS	Relevant DATABASES on the platform
<b>EbscoHOST</b>	Contains Academic Search Premier, ERIC, <b>Humanities International Complete</b> , MasterFILE Premier and <b>Africa-Wide Information</b> . See below.
<b>Cambridge Journals</b>	Includes journals on Cultural Studies, Language & Linguistics (quite a number of titles), Literary Studies (currently only a few journals)
<b>Highwire</b>	Stanford University platform containing some language studies and titles on communication, including journalism and culture.
<b>Infotrac</b>	Contains Academic Onefile (multidisciplinary database), <b>Literature Resource Centre</b> and Global Issues in Context. See below.
<b>IngentaConnect</b>	Includes Arts & Humanities (±405 publications), Philosophy/Linguistics (±263 publications) and Social Sciences (±1, 234 publications), among others.

<b>ISI Web of Knowledge</b>	Contains Arts & Humanities Citation Index and Social Sciences Citation Index as part of the Web of Science database. [Can do Subject and cited author searches and run h-index reports. Also Journal Impact Factors on Journal Citations Reports.]
<b>JSTOR</b>	See below.
<b>Ovid SP</b>	Contains IBSS – International Bibliography of the Social Sciences. See below.
<b>Oxford Journals</b>	Includes life sciences, mathematics and physical sciences, medicine, social sciences, humanities and law.
<b>PAO (Periodicals Archive Online)</b>	See below.
<b>Project Muse</b>	Useful for study of literature and language, Culture & Media Studies, Publishing and Journalism, and Creative Writing.  [Source of complete, full-text versions of scholarly journals in the humanities and social sciences, from many of the world's leading university presses and scholarly societies. UPCC Book Collections on Project MUSE launched in January 2012: top quality book-length scholarship, fully integrated with scholarly journal content.]
<b>Proquest</b>	Contains <b>ABI/INFORM Complete</b> , <b>British Humanities Index</b> , ERIC, International Bibliography of the Social Sciences (IBSS), <b>Linguistics and Language Behaviour Abstracts (LLBA)</b> , <b>MLA International Bibliography</b> , PAIS, Philosopher's Index, <b>Proquest Dissertations and Theses</b> , Psychinfo, and others.
<b>SAGE</b>	Multidisciplinary. Especially for Culture & Media Studies students.
<b>SAePublications</b>	Full-text articles from South African journals as from 2001.
<b>ScienceDirect</b>	Electronic collection of Science, Technology and Medicine full text and bibliographic information. Contains ±32 titles in the subject Arts & Humanities: Language and Linguistics, and ±56 titles in the subject: Linguistics and Language.
<b>SpringerLink</b>	Includes Education, Language education, Humanities: Design, Interdisciplinary Studies, Linguistics, Philosophy, Social Sciences.
<b>Swetswise</b>	Includes Linguistics, Communication, Education and Social Sciences.
<b>Taylor &amp; Francis</b>	Includes titles on Education, Language and Literature, Social Sciences, and Humanities (includes Communication Studies, Cultural Studies & Media & Film Studies).
<b>Wiley Interscience</b>	Includes 'Language and Linguistics', 'Communication and Media' and 'Literature', among others.
<b>Web of Knowledge</b>	From Databases, choose Web of Science to search the <b>Social Sciences Citation Index</b> .

#### DATABASES:

<b>Academic Search Premier</b>	Multidisciplinary. Provides full text for more than 4,500 journals, including full text for more than 3,700 peer-reviewed titles. PDF backfiles to 1975 or further are available for well over one hundred journals, and searchable cited references are provided for more than 1,000 titles. Available on EbscoHOST (platform)
<b>Africa-Wide: NiPAD (including what was previously called South African Studies)</b>	Produced by NISC South Africa, it combines databases to form a multidisciplinary aggregation offering unique and extensive coverage of all facets of Africa and African studies. With over 2.4 million citations and abstracts dating back to the 16th century, this resource is essential for those with an interest in African research, and information on and about Africa. 1987 to current. Available on EbscoHOST (platform).

<b>Aluka</b>	Digital library of scholarly resources from and about Africa.
<b>Arts &amp; Humanities Citation Index</b>	A multidisciplinary index (database) covering the journal literature of the arts and humanities. 2000-current. Available on ISI Web of Knowledge (platform).
<b>British Humanities Index</b>	Database containing literature, language, political science, philosophy. 1962-current. Available on Proquest (platform).
<b>Humanities International Complete</b>	Provides full text of hundreds of journals, books and other published sources. Includes all data from <i>Humanities International Index</i> (more than 2,100 journals and 2.47 million records) plus unique full text content, much of which is not found in other databases. Includes full text for more than 890 journals. 1984 – current. Available on EbscoHOST (platform).
<b>FirstSearch</b>	Offers seamless electronic access to dozens of databases and more than 10 million full-text and full image articles. Records of items worldwide.
<b>International Bibliography of the Social Sciences (IBSS)</b>	Database containing bibliographic information from an international selection of publications (including over 2600 journals) in the fields of economics, political science, sociology and anthropology. 1981-current. Available on Ovid (platform).
<b>JSTOR</b>	Offers a high-quality, interdisciplinary archive of over one thousand leading academic journals across the humanities, social sciences, and sciences, with discipline specific collections: Arts & Sciences collection, The General Sciences and The Biological Sciences Collection. It includes select monographs and other materials valuable for academic work. Full-text searchable, includes images, and is interlinked by citations and references. Archive.
<b>Linguistics and Language Behavior Abstracts (LLBA)</b>	The study of language, including phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics; descriptive, historical, comparative, theoretical, etc. 1973 - current. Database available on CSA Illumina (platform).
<b>Literature Resource Centre</b>	Database available on Infotrac (platform) – Biographies, reviews, overviews and full-text literary criticism on more than 130, 000 writers in all disciplines from all time periods and from around the world.
<b>MasterFILE Premier</b>	Multidisciplinary. Provides full text for nearly 1,750 general reference publications, dating as far back as 1975. Covers virtually every subject area of general interest. Also includes nearly 500 full text reference books, full text from 86,017 biographies, 105,786 full text primary source documents, and an Image Collection of 341,655 photos, maps and flags. Available on EbscoHOST (platform).
<b>MLA International Bibliography</b>	Bibliographic records pertaining to literature, language, linguistics and folklore. 1963-present. Database available on CSA Illumina (platform).
<b>Nexus Database System</b>	NRF / National Research Foundation database of completed and current research projects. Ask your information specialist for the User ID and Password.
<b>Periodicals Archive Online and Periodicals Index Online (previously called PCI Full Text and PCI)</b>	Information about key resources for study and research in the humanities and social sciences. Periodicals Archive Online offers access to just the digitised journals from PCI Full Text. To search the entire index of citations, use Periodicals Index Online. This includes records for all of the articles in Periodicals Archive Online, and links to

	take you straight to the full text where applicable.
<b>SAMedia</b>	Database. South African Newspaper articles. Also available as database on Sabinet.
<b>Sabinet</b>	South African Bibliographic Network: a platform that includes various South African databases.

Go to <http://www.library.up.ac.za/journals/journalsplatforms.htm> for a list of our **Journal Platforms**, and to <http://www.library.up.ac.za/eresources/eresourcesaz.htm> for our **Databases A-Z** list.

Further recommendations within the **Humanities** are to be found at <http://www.library.up.ac.za/human/index.htm> where you can **Select a Subject** on the left. Alternatively, contact your **information specialist** whose details are also on this page.

Various helpful guides at <http://uphumanities.wikispaces.com>. *Good luck with your research!*