

Advanced Search Techniques Using One Search

[00:00:00] [Beginning of Recorded Material]

Grant Hardaway: Hello, my name is Grant Hardaway. I'm the librarian for the sciences here at Trinity and today I'm going to talk about the advanced search tool through the Library One Search. So, this is available through lib.trinity.edu. If you watched my previous video on just the basic searching, you saw that I did a simple search on climate change. So, I'm going to do that again but I'm going to change some features of the search. I'm going to go ahead and search for climate change. Then, we're getting the same results, so we're getting [00:00:30] almost two million results, which is a lot, and climate change also is a pretty broad topic. So, depending upon what you're writing your paper about, you probably want to get more specific than just generally climate change. So, I'll show you how you can make this search more limited and how you can make it just more precise. So, I'm going to click on this advanced search option here. Now, you can already tell that there are some differences between just a basic search and an [00:01:00] advanced search. So, you have additional areas where you can enter in search queries, so, for instance, let's say we want to write about climate change but specifically we want to talk about renewable energy. If I go ahead and type in "renewable energy" here, you could just type that in. You could also type in just "or" here and it'll give you some alternate ways to say "renewable energy," and this is generally for most topics if you type in "or," they'll [00:01:30] give you other ways to say it. So, if an article references "renewable energy," whether you call it "green energy" or "alternative energy," you'd be able to find those articles as well. So, I'm going to go ahead and click on this option here, then if you scroll down, you can actually limit by discipline. So, one thing about One Search is that it looks at a topic from all different types of disciplines, so if you're looking at climate change, for instance, you may not want to look at climate change from a biology perspective. Perhaps in this paper, you're really just looking from an economics and political [00:02:00] perspective. If that's the case, you may want to go ahead and limit it by those disciplines right away. So, for instance, I can click on "economics," "political science," and "politics and government." So, I know that when the articles pop up, I'll be able to see articles within that realm and I won't have to kind of parse through elements of history or

even anthropology with climate change. I can really focus on the topics that I'm interested in. So, I'll go [00:02:30] ahead and limit it by these three, then from there, a couple things you can do here. I'm going to go ahead and limit it by the peer-reviewed journals, just meaning that these articles that I do find through this are up to the standard of that field, meaning that a group of scholars have reviewed the article before it was published, which is generally just a nice mark of quality. If it's not peer-reviewed that doesn't necessarily mean that it's a bad article, but in this case, in a lot of classes, they ask for peer-reviewed journals. [00:03:00] So, this is an easy way to kind of make sure that you're getting those without individually looking at each journal that you're looking at and trying to figure out if it's peer-reviewed or not, this can automatically limit to that. You can also limit to full text. My one reservation on that is that you would limit away articles that we may not have access to, but you could get through interlibrary loan. So, you're going to get a limited number of articles through full text, whereas you may find an article you really [00:03:30] like that we don't have access to, but you could send a request through interlibrary loan. So, it's up to you. If you need the article today, for instance, maybe go ahead and limit by full text, but if you're working on a project fairly early, you have a few days you could wait for interlibrary loan, I would wait to click on full text. Then, from there, you could go into really specific search criteria like the specific journal name, the author, the title of the article. You could look at what is included within the article as the image quick view, [00:04:00] so this means images that are attached to the article that are accessible through One Search. So, this is really, really limiting, like if you want an article with a map on it, you can click on it this way, though once again that limits it just to the ones that are available in One Search. If it's not available directly through One Search, you're going to be limiting yourself maybe too much. So, the one I would probably recommend the most, especially with a topic like this, with climate change, where the science is constantly updating, you may want to limit it to the last ten or five years. So, I'm going to go ahead and do that and just do [00:04:30] the last five years here. And, then there you can click on "available" in the library collection if you're looking for physical materials like books. Though you will note that since I clicked on the peer-reviewed journals that it's going to limit it only to journal articles, so you wouldn't find probably any books through this method. Then you can also limit it by language. [00:05:00] I'm going to go ahead and skip that section, but you'll probably want to, if you're looking just for English

articles, which may not be the case, you can limit it that way. So, I'm going to go ahead and search. Okay, so the results are much smaller. We have almost about 9,000, which is still a lot. We can still limit it some more, but this is a much more manageable number. So, you'll start looking at the first couple of article titles here, and you'll [00:05:30] notice that, okay, this could probably be interesting to me. It seems like it'd be fairly relevant to your project if you're working on a climate change paper that looks at renewable energy from an economic and political standpoint. If you look at the journal title, so you could actually see here on the "by" section, it'll talk about the journal title, *Environmental Politics*, so you can tell, okay, this journal is something that would be interesting to me. Which is always a good rule of thumb when you're looking at these articles, to make sure the [00:06:00] journal itself is talking about something you'd be interested in, and they're looking at it from a perspective that you'd be interested in. So, *Environmental Politics*, that seems like a journal that would be very, very relevant to you. If it seemed like it was a bit more of, say, an anthropology journal, for instance, it may or may not be relevant to you. It really kind of depends on your needs in your research. And that's why limiting by disciplines can be really helpful in this early stage, because it can kind of take out those. You'll also notice that these articles [00:06:30] have subject fields, and so these are all potential search terms that you could use. So, say, for instance, you've done kind of a general search and you're not really quite certain what kind of search you want to continue doing, using subject fields is a great way to generate these search terms. So, say this is an article that you really like, you can kind of look through these subject terms and see if there is, perhaps, a topic that also would be interesting for your paper. So, for instance, ecological modernization [00:07:00] may be a topic that would be interesting to you. So, if you want to, you can actually, I would just copy this, paste it in here, and then you can select "subject terms" as a field, so it limits to articles that only use ecological modernization in the subject field. So, this really, really will limit your search results because maybe there won't be that many articles that are even talking about this, but if you're looking at ecological modernization, this would be a really, really helpful way to narrow down those results. So, [00:07:30] I'm going to go ahead and search by that. And yeah, so we only have seven, so this may be even too small, too limiting, which is the danger with subject terms. But, if you are struggling finding articles and you keep getting a ton of results sometimes searching by subject terms will be the best. I'm going to go

ahead and go back to our original search before we went and did the subject terms, and I'll show you a few other ways you can limit these search results down. [00:08:00] So, if you scroll down on the left-hand side, you could continue to limit the search if you want. If you wanted to go ahead, okay, I need to use full-text, you'd limit it here. If you wanted to make the date range smaller or larger, you can change that here. You can also change the source type from, say, for instance, you could choose "reviews," which means these are all articles that are talking about other articles. They aren't doing original research, they're compiling original research and talking about it broadly. So, a review may be your best option if you're trying to learn about a topic [00:08:30] from a kind of top-down view, and you're looking at research at a very broad level. There are a lot of other more specific ways to limit the search. Really, the main one I would focus on here is the "subject" field here, which is just another way, instead of copying and pasting one of the subject terms, they have listed by most popular within the search results, the subject terms. So, climate change, renewable energy sources, environmental sciences, [00:09:00] so you may want to limit just to ones that have climate change in the subject field, things like that. You could also limit by publication or publisher, that's fairly specific, so you may not want to do that. You could limit it by language, so if you wanted just English articles you could do that. So, those are ways that you can limit your search, make it more precise, and find the articles that you need. I've been getting really small results, it isn't necessarily the aim. The aim is to get more precise results, [00:09:30] and so don't be intimidated, overwhelmed, or think that you did something wrong if you're still getting thousands upon thousands of results. Really kind of start looking through what you're finding, and when you do find articles that are helpful, do things like make note of the subject terms that are available, make note of the journals that are available. These are just many different ways you can make your search more precise and more effective, and will make your research process that much better. Thank you for your time, and [00:10:00] best of luck on your research.

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