

## WHAT IS A LIBRARY DATABASE?

A library database is a *searchable* online resource containing a variety of *information* from authoritative *published works*.

## WHAT DOES THIS MEAN? LET'S BREAK IT DOWN...

Searchable by	Information	Published Works
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Keywords</li><li>• Subject</li><li>• Author</li><li>• Title</li><li>• Date</li><li>• Other options</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Title</li><li>• Author</li><li>• Publication</li><li>• Date</li><li>• Abstract</li><li>• Full-text articles</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Journals</li><li>• eBooks</li><li>• Videos</li><li>• Newspapers</li><li>• Magazines</li><li>• Encyclopedias</li></ul>

## WHY USE A LIBRARY DATABASE INSTEAD OF A WEBSITE?

In short, library databases provide you with more control over your search for more relevant, scholarly, and trustworthy results. Let's compare...

Indicator	Library Databases	Websites
<b>Authority / Reliability</b>	Fact-checked information from professionals and experts in the field.	May be written by anyone regardless of expertise; May not be checked by an expert.
<b>Currency</b>	Updated frequently and includes date of publication.	May not indicate when a page is updated.
<b>Relevance &amp; Organization</b>	Provides limiters to narrow your topic or suggests related subjects.	Lacks filtering options and relevancy ranking.
<b>Bibliography</b>	Easy to cite; some databases create a citation for you.	Can be difficult to cite with incomplete bibliographic information.
<b>Accessibility</b>	Only authenticated users (students, faculty, staff) can use the library databases.	Accessible from anywhere with an internet connection.
<b>Stability</b>	Published material and content which does not change over time.	Content may change frequently without notice.

For further assistance, contact the Bryan Librarian at: [library@bryanuniversity.edu](mailto:library@bryanuniversity.edu) or 602.838.7312.