Library Resources

School of Resource & Environmental Studies: Library Resources Workshop

Fall 2018

Dal Libraries Website  libraries.dal.ca

Novanet: Library catalogue for all universities and community colleges in Nova Scotia. Includes books, journals, government documents, media and selected electronic article collections.

Request books & journal articles available in other Novanet Libraries or via Document Delivery.

Cards:
Your Dalcard is your library card, but you must activate it by registering as a library borrower. Register at the Service Point desk, or online at: http://util.library.dal.ca/PatronRegistration/
Request a CURBA borrower’s card at the Service Point – when you are away from Halifax, the CURBA card permits you to borrow books from participating Canadian university libraries.
Configure Eduroam on your laptop/tablet. This allows wireless access at participating universities.

How to Access Your Library Account:
• Libraries website > below “Libraries” > “My Library Account”.
• Username is the barcode from bottom of your Dalcard (21260...) password is the last 4 digits of phone number as registered with Dal Libraries

Subject Guides > Environmental Studies http://dal.ca.libguides.com/env_studies
The guide provides links to databases & relevant resources. Depending on your area of interest, you may also find it useful to check the subject guides for biology, management, public administration, etc...

Databases
Bibliographic databases can provide you with references to articles published on a particular topic. A list of relevant databases is available on the opening page of the Environmental Studies subject guide.
Location of Print Resources

A selection of current general magazines/journals are located near the Reference Room, Killam Library. Reference books (encyclopedias, dictionaries, etc...) - 1st floor Killam Library, Learning Commons. Other books and journals relevant to environmental management, history, policy, ethics, etc., as well as government documents are located on other floors of the Killam Library. Check Novanet for the specific call numbers.

Call Number locations in the Killam Library:

More information regarding call number locations at: http://libraries.dal.ca/hours-locations/killam/killam-callnumbers.html

Theses

Many recent Dalhousie masters and doctoral theses are available free online through the DalSpace repository: http://dalspace.library.dal.ca/handle/10222/11163 The ProQuest Dissertations and Theses database is also an excellent source for the fulltext of Dalhousie theses as well as theses from throughout North America. Print copies of older Dalhousie theses are available for viewing in Special Collections on the 5th floor of the Killam Library. For more information regarding copies of Dalhousie masters and doctoral theses, refer to: https://libraries.dal.ca/find/theses.html

If you wish to access a copy of a thesis completed at another university, and you can’t find the thesis online, contact the staff of the Libraries’ Document Delivery department: 902-494-3612. They will help you to determine availability, cost and delivery time for the item.

(no charge if the item is picked up at a Dal library location)
• Via links in Novanet, if item is listed.
• Via Document Delivery link in databases, if not in Novanet, or submit request form: https://caul-cbua.relais-host.com/user/login.html?group=patron&LS=NSHD

GIS Centre / Map Collection: https://libraries.dal.ca/hours-locations/gis-centre.html
GIS Centre staff are available to assist you in the creation of digital maps for your projects.

Research Data Management (RDM) guide http://dal.ca.libguides.com/rdm
Provides tips on how to manage, describe, and store your research data. There’s a lot of information on the guide. Start with “How to avoid a data management nightmare” video. Then go to Write a Plan – DMP Assistant. This includes two handouts under RDM Handouts & Guides that will introduce you to RDM best practices: “RDM for busy people” and the longer “Research Data Management Primer”
Learning Commons
1st floor Killam Library
160 workstations (PC and Mac). Killam Service Point, Help Desk, Writing Centre, GIS software, scanners, colour and black & white printers, 3-D printer, group study rooms, adaptive workstation. Note: A Quiet Commons area is located on 2nd floor, adjacent to Reading Room.

Research Assistance (902-494-3611)
The Service Point is located in the lobby, on the 1st floor of the Killam Library. Building and Research Assistance hours: https://libraries.dal.ca/hours-locations/killam.html

Ask a Librarian! http://libraries.dal.ca/help/ask-us.html
Provides link to Novanet Live Help chat reference service. (Note that service providers come from across Novanet, not just Dalhousie Killam.)

Check out our Help pages https://libraries.dal.ca/help.html and Online Tutorials https://libraries.dal.ca/help/online-tutorials.html

What can your librarian do for you?
- Suggest appropriate databases, print resources and other sources of information.
- Answer research-related questions via e-mail or telephone.
- Answer in-depth questions or research queries by meeting with you on an individual basis.

Individual Consultations
Your subject liaisons are available for individual consultations. Please phone or e-mail to arrange a meeting time.

Dominic Silvio, Social Science Librarian:
Liaison areas: Sociology & Social, Anthropology, Social Work, Political Science, College of Sustainability, Black Canadian Studies, Arabic
dsilvio@dal.ca 902-494-2670

Sarah Stevenson Associate University Librarian - Research Services, Head of Killam Memorial Library, Science Librarian
Liaison areas: Chemistry, Environmental Science, Earth Science, Math & Stats, Physics & Atmospheric Science, Research Data Management
*Sarah.Stevenson@dal.ca 902-494-1325 *email preferred
Database Search Tips

Many databases allow you to use the following words to connect search terms. This strategy helps to make your search more efficient.

**AND**
- Narrows a search  
  e.g. diet and osprey

**OR**
- Broadens a search
- Allows you to use synonyms  
  e.g. diet or food

**NOT**
- Allows you to exclude certain types of information  
  e.g. pollution not air

**Parentheses** = ( )
- Allows you to specify the order of the search
- Terms within parentheses are searched first
  
  e.g. (diet or food) AND (osprey or Pandion haliatus) AND Nova Scotia

**Truncation** = * ! ? (each database has its own truncation symbol)

- Use of truncation directs the database to search for variations in spelling or word termination.  
  e.g. environment* (retrieves environment, environmental, environmentalism, etc)
  
  e.g. (diet* or food*) AND (osprey* or Pandion haliatus) AND Nova Scotia*
TROUBLESHOOTING TIPS

During a database search, if you retrieve too many results, try narrowing the search. On the other hand, if you retrieve too few or no results, try broadening the search.

In order to Narrow a Search (if too many hits):
- Use AND
- Use NOT
- Use terms that are more specific
- Use a narrower range of publication dates

In order to Broaden a Search (if too few hits):
- Use OR (with synonyms)
- Use terms that are more general
- Use truncation
- Use a broader range of publication dates

Other Suggestions:
- Be sure that you are using the correct terminology for the topic.
- Check that the search words are spelled correctly.
- Confirm that you are using an appropriate database.