

A Quick Guide to **JSTOR**

What is JSTOR?

The JSTOR database provides a comprehensive backfile of major scholarly journals in History, Classical Studies, Arts and Sciences, Business, Ecology & Botany, General Science, Language & Literature, and Music. Coverage begins with such journals and *Philosophical Transactions* (1683-1775) to more recent publications. This database offers full-text access to its journal articles. There is no recent content in JSTOR. Each journal has a “moving wall” of 3-5 years, depending on the journal.

How do I get to JSTOR?

To access JSTOR, go to the library's homepage, select “Get Articles in Databases”, then select “Reed Library’s Database Page”, select the “Sociology” link; select the “JSTOR” link.

How do I search JSTOR?

1. **Always** use the **Advance Search** (The beginning screen is the “basic search”, so you must change it by clicking on the “Advance search” link to the right of the search box).
2. **Conduct a keyword search** using appropriate Boolean connectors (AND/OR/Not) and fields (Full-text, author, article title, *abstract and caption. *Note: *Only 10% of all JSTOR articles are abstracted*).

	full-text	▼	AND	▼
	author	▼	OR	▼
	article title	▼	NOT	▼
	abstract	▼		

3. **The next step is to limit your search** by material type, date and/or language:

Type: Article Review Editorial Other

Date Range:

Beginning Date: to Ending Date:
(specify dates as yyyy, yyyy/mm, or yyyy/mm/dd)

Article Language:

English	▼
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4. Finally, **Choose a Discipline or Journal Title**. You may choose more than one category or Journal. To see what journal titles are available within each discipline, click on the + (plus) sign that is to the left of the check box.

What are some *Search Features* I should use within JSTOR?

To *Combine* search terms:

Use *Boolean Phrasing* (And/Or/Not)

To conduct a *Phrase search*:

Put quotation marks around the phrase (For example: "Cuban missile crisis")

To search for *Variations of a Word*:

A **?** (question mark) allows you to replace 1 (one) letter, and pick up all variations of the word. (For example: wom?n will pick up woman and women in your search)

An ***** (asterisk) allows you to replace multiple letters and pick up those word variations. (For example: bird* will pick up bird, birds, birding, etc.)

To search for *Plural Endings*:

Use the **&** (ampersand) at the end of words to retrieve both the plural and singular forms of that word. (For example: **cat&** will find cat and cats, **box&** will find box and boxes.)

To Create a *Proximity Search*:

JSTOR allows you to find words within a specific number of words, to create a LITERAL SEARCH. You can only use this feature in the "*All these words*" search box.

Use **quotation marks around the phrase**, and **the tilde ~** to indicate how many specific words you would like between the two words in quotation marks.

For example: "**Kennedy Castro**"~**10** will return results with these terms within 10 words of each other.

Why conduct a proximity search?

It allows for more precise searching. Very often, you will retrieve too many hits in JSTOR using the Advance Search boxes. This type of searching puts search terms close together, with the premise that if they are close in "proximity" the article will more than likely fit your criteria more precisely.

How do I *Navigate* through my JSTOR results?

To view the full-text of the article, click on the *Title of the Article*. At the top of the page are hotlinks to the pages that contain your terms. The terms will not be highlighted.

How do I *Print* an article?

Use the **internal print command** that is located at the **top left hand side of the page**. This will insure a clear and complete print out of your article.