

FirstSearch

Overview

FirstSearch is an advanced collection of subscription databases available to BHCC students and faculty. FirstSearch provides access to over 60 research databases and is integrated with WorldCat, a global library catalog. Thanks to WorldCat, items can be located within libraries anywhere in the world. Access to FirstSearch requires a password and a library training session. If you are interested, speak to a BHCC librarian.

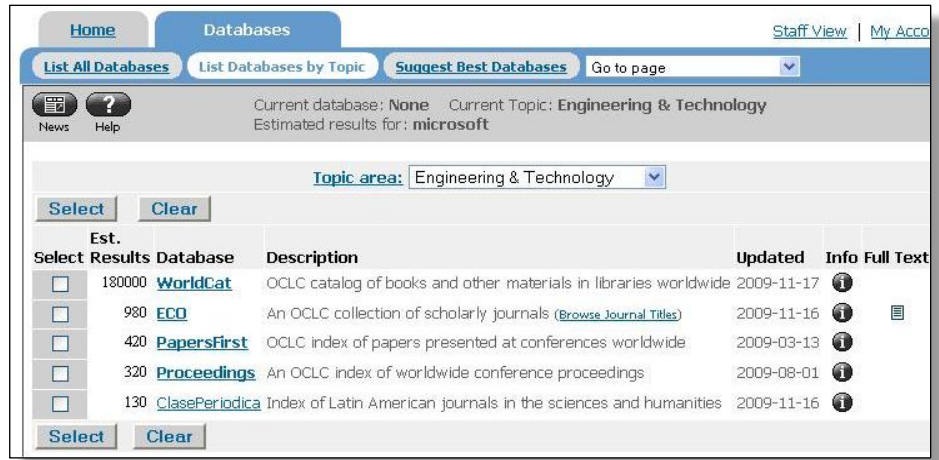
Basic Searching

When you login to FirstSearch, you are presented with the search screen below. There are several search methods and you will need to experiment to find out which method works best for you. You can search based on topics or you can select individual databases from the list. For this example we are using an "Engineering& Technology" topic search on the keyword "microsoft." Enter your keywords in the "search for box" and select a topic from the pull down menu.

The screenshot shows the FirstSearch Home page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Home' and 'Databases' tabs. Below this, there are three buttons: 'List All Databases', 'List Databases by Topic', and 'Suggest Best Databases', followed by a 'Go to page' link. A secondary navigation bar contains 'Intro', 'News', and 'Help' links. The main content area features a search form with a 'Search for:' text box, an 'In:' dropdown menu set to '- Select a Topic or Database -', and 'Search' and 'Clear' buttons. At the bottom, there is a 'Jump to Advanced Search:' dropdown menu set to '- Select a Database to Search -'.

In a topic search, you will be shown a list of possible databases and the estimated results for each one as seen below. Select the databases you wish to search and click "select."

BHCC LIBRARY



You will be taken to a search screen and your chosen databases will appear in the menu. Press the “search” button to execute the search.



You will see the FirstSearch results screen. Items owned by the BHCC library will be highlighted. For help accessing items that the BHCC library does not own, see a librarian and ask about the FirstSearch Interlibrary Loan process.

