About This Guide
This guide explains what is available through Google Scholar and how to navigate this web-based search engine.

About Google Scholar
Google Scholar is a search engine that provides access to a wide variety of scholarly literature including articles, books, dissertations, conference proceedings, patents, legal opinions, and more. The content is significantly more refined than searching through the general Google interface, making it a helpful tool for the academic researcher. It is important to note that there is no way to limit solely to peer-reviewed articles when using Google Scholar. It is recommended that you also use the Library’s databases to conduct your research.

How to Access Google Scholar
The direct link is http://scholar.google.com. Or, from the Google homepage, www.google.com, select “Even more” from the “More” drop-down menu, and click the link for “Scholar” under “Specialized Search.”

Once Google Scholar opens, instead of using the single search box, you can click the down arrow at the right side of the search box to open the Advanced Search option. Using the “Advanced Scholar Search” interface allows you to enter search terms in one or more of the search boxes to utilize Boolean searching concepts, to search by exact phrases, and to place other search limiters.

Finding the Full-Text through Leatherby Libraries
At times only the citation and abstract (summary) of an item may be available through Google Scholar or you may be prompted to purchase the full-text. However, you can set your computer to identify when a full-text version is available through the Leatherby Libraries’ databases. To ensure your computer is set to enable this feature, go to the Google Scholar homepage (http://scholar.google.com), and click the link for “Settings” on the top right corner. Choose “Library links.” If the option “Chapman University–Where Can I Get This?” does not appear in the list of options below the search box, do the following:

1. In the search box, enter Chapman University and click the search button.
2. Select all possible options, including “Chapman University – Where Can I get This?”
3. Click the “Save” button.

Results containing the “Where Can I Get This” link lead to full-text options available through the Leatherby Libraries’ databases (see the screenshot on other side under “How to Read a Google Scholar Citation”).

This guide is one in a series of “How To” Reference and Instruction Guides created by librarians at the Leatherby Libraries. View the series online at www.chapman.edu/library/reference/guides
Author of this guide: Annie Knight, MLIS, Coordinator of Brandman University Library Services
Date created: August 4, 2009 / Updated: October 22, 2012
How to Read a Google Scholar Citation

The information below can help you decipher the various parts of Google Scholar citations.

Above: A sample citation from Google Scholar. Clicking on “Where Can I Get This?” (circled above) will link to the Leatherby Libraries and provide any full-text options.

Explanation of Links

1. Title – Links to the abstract of the article, or, when available on the web, the full-text.
2. Cited by – Identifies other works that have cited the article, book, or other item. This may not include all citations for this item.
3. Related articles – Finds other works that are similar.
4. Where Can I Get This? – This link indicates that full-text options are available through Leatherby Libraries. Clicking on the “Where Can I Get This?” link will direct you to the location of the full-text through the Leatherby Libraries website, as shown below.

Click on the title link to access the full-text through one of the Library’s databases.

For more information on formatting your computer off-campus to be able to link to Leatherby Libraries when using Google Scholar, please see “Finding the Full-Text through Leatherby Libraries” on the previous page of this guide.

Interlibrary Loan

When the full-text is not available through Google Scholar or Leatherby Libraries, currently enrolled or employed Chapman University students, faculty, and staff may request books and articles through Interlibrary Loan. For information on how to set up your Interlibrary Loan account, contact the Library’s Interlibrary Loan department at ill@chapman.edu / (714) 532-7717.

Research Assistance

Contact the Reference Desk at libweb@chapman.edu / (714) 532-7714.

This guide is one in a series of “How To” Reference and Instruction Guides created by librarians at the Leatherby Libraries. View the series online at www.chapman.edu/library/reference/guides

Author of this guide: Annie Knight, MLIS, Coordinator of Brandman University Library Services
Date created: August 4, 2009 / Updated: October 22, 2012