

# **Presidency University**

## No: 86/1, College Street, Kolkata-700073. West Bengal

## **User Manual**

### EFFECTIVE INFORMATION RESOURCES RETRIEVAL STRATEGIES

#### **Contributors:**

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#### **Module Title:**

#### **Enhancing Resource Discovery: Effective Information Resources Retrieval Strategies**

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Subject Areas: Interdisciplinary, Library and Information Science.

#### Target users:

Academicians, Students (Undergraduate, Postgraduate), Research Scholars, Staff, or any other members of the Libraries who need information regarding

- Whether the information resources, the library users need are available in the library or not?
- What information resources are available in the library?
- How can bibliographic information be retrieved using the library catalogue/OPAC/Web OPAC?
- How can databases be searched using different search Strategies?

This is also helpful for the skill development of the Library Staff in assisting the library users to find the relevant resources.

#### **Contents:**

- 1. Introduction of the Module
- 2. Objectives
- 3. Background
- 4. Retrieval strategies
  - a) Simple Search Techniques
  - b) Advanced Search Techniques

#### 5. Exercises

#### 1. Introduction to the module

This module is designed to provide information on the different retrieval techniques of information resources/bibliographic resources. It aims to enhance the knowledge and skills of library users, students, faculty members and researcher scholars in effective resource search.

#### 2. Objectives

- Learners including Library staff and users will get acquainted with the structure and the functions of the OPAC interface through NewGenLib Library Automation Software.
- Learners will learn different search options necessary to get the appropriate resources on time.
- Learners will understand how to find similar resources even if their knowledge is limited about the available resources through resource linking.
- Learners will be able to access their accounts meant for different services and information dissemination related to the library

#### 3. Background

Information retrieval (IR) is the process of finding relevant information from a collection of data. Effective search techniques can result in more relevant data retrieval.

In this module, the search techniques are illustrated with the help of the Presidency University Web OPAC.

#### **Presidency University Library: A Brief Introduction:**

Being the library of a two-hundred-year-old institution, The Presidency University (Erstwhile Hindu College/Presidency College) Library has a very unique and rich collection of books, periodicals, and manuscripts along with electronic and multimedia resources. The collection includes some of the rarest books and reference materials along with thousands of important documents and journals.

The University Library comprises of two main units - i.e., - the Arts Library, and the Science Library alongside the individual departmental libraries. The primary aim of the library is to support the academic and research programs of the University by providing access to its rich physical and digital repositories of learning resources. With its rare archives and the most current databases, the University library is designed to cater to the University's current and future teaching and research interests.

#### NewGenLib Library Automation Software

Presidency University Library has been automated with the NewGenLib (NGL) Library Automation Software, developed by Verus Solutions Private Limited, Hyderabad – 500049. NGL Core Engine version 3.3 – Helium, Release Date: 26th January 2023 is being used at present. Data Entry, Cataloguing, Membership, Circulation and many other works are being automated using different modules of the NGL Software.

## Library Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) /Web OPAC Interface of NewGenLib

Presidency University Library's OPAC/Web OPAC offers an easy-to-use platform for searching the collections of books and other library resources.

The catalogue can be searched from any internet device like desktop, laptop, mobile, etc.

The Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) of the University Library is **accessible** – **anytime**, **from anywhere**. The OPAC shows the real-time availability of the library learning materials.

To locate learning resources (i.e., books and other materials) available in the library following steps to be followed:

**Step-1**- Go to the University home page (<u>www.presiuniv.ac.in</u>) and then click on the Library tab. The following screen will come.



**Step-2.** Click on OPAC (on the left-hand side). By default, all users accessing OPAC will see a common interface and same set of menu option.

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PRESIDENCY UNIVERSITY KOLKATA	
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Presidency University ETD- Theses Repository	

Step 3. Click on Library OPAC. The following screen will appear.

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Or, Users can directly click on the link: https://www.presiuniv.ac.in/web/library/opac.php

#### Login to OPAC:

Members of the Library can also login to the Library OPAC using the Login ID and password provided by the Library.

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**OPAC interface:** The following picture shows how to login to the OPAC interface as a user and the facilities that may be availed after login as a user.

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#### 4. Search Strategies

Search strategies may be simple as well as advanced. Browsing is also one kind of search strategy used to retrieve documents with author, title, etc., in alphabetical order.

#### 4.1 Simple Search Strategies:

Through Simple Search Strategy, a user may search the library collection by the following options:

- Title,
- Author,
- Keywords,
- Classification Number, and
- Accession Number.

If one does not know which field has to be searched, a user may use the 'anywhere' option.

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	Themes O1 • 2 • 3
	Home About My Library Discussions Message New arrivals Top stories Contact us
	All material types         Books         Journals and Serials         Question papers         E-Books         Doaj         Doaj         Browse A-Z         Experts           Discussions         Doaj         Doaj
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	Accession number Anywhere

Note: All the search results are **arranged alphabetically based on 'Title Words' by default.** However, one can sort the search results by Authors (i.e., Surname of Authors), Date (Ascending) or Date (Descending) based on publication year.

#### a) Search using the 'Title' option

To find a book with the Title "A Shakespeare Manual", a user has to write the title in the search box and select the title option and then click on search. The result will be as follows:

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#### Searching Documents in Bengali languages

When searching for a Bengali document, it may be done both in Bengali and in English scripts since the title and author of Bengali documents are recorded in both languages.

For example if we write 'Matantare' or 'মতান্তরে' in the search box and select Title the search will retrieve the following book written in Bengali:

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Back to searc	th results
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	Physical description: ২৩৬%
	Author(s): রায়চৌধুরী, সুব্রত (RoyChowdhury, Subrata);
	Subjects: বাংলা সাহিত্য; Bengali literature; বাংলা প্রবন্ধ; রবীল্রশাথ ঠাকুর; Bengali Essay;
No Picture	বাংলা সাহিত্য, Rabindranath Tagore;
Available	Publisher: পত্রলেখা কলকাতা ,২০১০;
	Call number: B 891.444 R813M;
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#### Searching Documents in Hindi languages

When searching for a Hindi document, it may be done both in Hindi and in English scripts since the title and author of Hindi documents are recorded in both languages.

For example if we write 'Akbari darbar' or 'अकबरी दरबार' in the search box and select Title the search will retrieve the following book written in Hindi:

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	Physical description: 184p.:
	Subjects: आत्योचना (कवि);
No Picture	Publisher: कानपुर : अन्नपूर्णा प्रकाशन , 1999;
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#### b) Search using the 'Subject' option

To find a book with the Subject "Physical Chemistry", a user has to write the title in the search box and select the title option and then click on search. The result will be as follows:



After clicking on the particular title, the user will get:

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Users may further **narrow down their search** by using **Refine results** option given at the Right side of the search results using following options-

Shelving Location, Author, Subject, Nature of Publications, etc.

To know the real time availability of the desired learning material and its location, see the 'Available At' and 'Availability'.

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				Other locations are –
> ry	Mat Boo Mic Electr	erial type k (Print, zoform, onic, etc.)	Request this item for check- out	Science Library and different Seminar Libraries.
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• User may note down the title, author, accession number and call number of the desired books to trace them easily in the library.

#### Virtual bookshelf:

The 'Other Books in the rack' is the virtual bookshelf that will inform the users about *other related books* available in the Library based on the 'Title' selected.

sidency Un	iversity Library				
Bar code	Accession number	Status	Location	Material type	
\$24153	S24153 E 541 C161M	Available	Main Library -> Science Library 💡	Book (Print, Microform, Electronic, etc.)	Request this item for check- out
\$24187	S24187 E 541 C161M	Available	Main Library -> Science Library	Book (Print, Microform, Electronic etc.)	Request this item for check- out

#### Other books in the rack

	No Picture Available	Physical Chemistry	No Picture Available	- Marine Carrier	No Picture Available	No Picture Available	Station of
Physical	Physical	Concepts of	Physical	A mathcad	Physical	Elementary	Introduction
Chemistry /	Chemistry : a	physical	chemistry :	primer for	chemistry /	physical	to physical
R. Stephen	molecular	chemistry /	quanta,	physical	Gilbert W.	chemistry / S.	chemistry /
Berry, Stuart	approach /	Jyotirmay	matter, and	chemistry / M.	Castellan ;	R. Palit	Mark Ladd
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			Ronald		V. M. Khanna,		
			Friedman		M. M. Kapoor		
					and V. P.		

Sharma

#### c) Browsing

When a user **doesn't know the particular 'Title' or 'Autho**r' of the learning resources or if the user wants to explore the different resources available, he/she **may browse the whole database with Subject, Author and Title as shown** below

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#### Example of browsing with the Last name – Chakraborty

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arch C	hakraborty		Author	~	rowse			
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1	Chakraborty , S. C.				Personal Na	ne		1
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4	Chakraborty Subhas Rai	njan, ed.			Personal Na	ne		1
5	Chakraborty, Achin				Personal Na	ne		1
6	Chakraborty, Alpana				Personal Na	ne		2
7	Chakraborty, Aranb				Personal Na	ne		0
8	Chakraborty, Arnab				Personal Na	ne		2
9	Chakraborty, Ashis K.				Personal Na	ne		0
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#### 4.2 Advanced Search Strategies:

In an advanced search strategy, some techniques are used to broaden or to shorten the searches. Advanced search techniques include Boolean Search, Proximity Search, etc.

a) **Boolean Search** - Besides the aforementioned simple search options, one can use Boolean Search Operators by clicking on the + sign



**Boolean Operators are** – AND, OR and NOT

And – when documents with two or more keywords are to be retrieved

**For ex.** Organic AND Chemistry in Title (Advanced Search)– will retrieve all the books having both the keywords in their title

	rganic Title +
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Save This	Query 🔝 Subscribe To RSS Feed
MAR SECTO	3000 solved problems in organic chemistry/Estelle K. Meislich, Herbert Meislich and Joseph Sharefkin
INCOME (BITMEST	Author(s): Meislich, Estelle K_
	Meislich, Herbert, Sharefkin, Joseph; Subjects: Chemistry, OrganicProblems, exercises, etc. Organic chemistry;
	Publisher: New Delhi : Tata McGraw-Hill Education , 1994 ;
5	ISBN: 9780070085268 ;
	Call number: E 540 G564S;
	Call number: E 540 G564S; Type: Book
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It is to be noted that- if 'Organic Chemistry' is written together in one box only (Simple Search), books with Organic Chemistry with these words exactly in the order given will be retrieved.



**OR-** When OR is used, documents with either of the terms or both the terms will be retrieved.

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**NOT-** is used to exclude the documents with a term not required

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Here books on English literature will be retrieved excluding the books by the author Rogers, Pat.

#### **b)** Truncation search:

A truncation search is a search technique that finds in which, the search is conducted for different forms of a word having the same common root.

Example: Catalogue / Catalog/Cataloguing- documents with both the spelling can be retrieved using "catalog"



#### **Exercises:**

- a) What will be the search strategy to retrieve documents with-
  - 1) Keywords: Dictionary, Statistics both in Title
  - 2) program, programme, programming anywhere
  - 3) Bengali Literature by Rabindranath Tagore excluding the poem
  - 4) Search books on हिन्दी कविता by सरस्वती भल्ला
- b) Browse and find what books by the author William Shakespeare are available.

#### **References:**

- 1. https://egyankosh.ac.in/bitstream/123456789/26257/1/Unit-3.pdf
- 2. <u>https://library.adhl.africa/bitstream/handle/123456789/2145/module3.pdf?sequence</u>

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