Use the Advanced Search screen

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Dropdown lists & indexes in Advanced Search

Navigate to the Advanced Search screen by clicking on Advanced Search below the search bar in your interface. You will see multiple search boxes and the button to add or remove databases.

Indexes related to all the databases being searched and the most used WorldCat indexes are available in the Advanced Search dropdown lists. Phrase indexes are in the dropdown lists or you can enter them with an index label.

Note: All indexes are available to you. See the comprehensive guide, Searching WorldCat Indexes.

The default indexes for most collections will appear in the following order:

- Keyword
- Title

If a database does not have the title index, the substitute is keyword. If neither Title nor Keyword is available, then the first index in alphabetical order displays.

Add search fields with +Add row. When you add a search box, the default index is keyword. If keyword is not available for that database, then the first index in alphabetical order displays.

Note: Available indexes and facets are specific to collections. If database selections are changed while a search is performed, selected indexes or facets may not be valid or available for the databases selected. The Audience filter will display only when Worldcat.org or WorldCat is selected as the only database in a search.

Search Tools

Within Advanced Search, options to limit your search are available at the bottom of the screen. The available search tools depend on what content you are searching: a single database, multiple databases, WorldCat, and so forth. Note that Year and Location (Libraries Worldwide, etc.) are always available.

Note: Search terms, indexes, and limiters do not persist when navigating from search results back to Advanced Search.

When searching a single database, limiters will appear in the following order (if they are available):

- Peer review
- Open access
- Group related editions
- Expand search with related terms
See Search Expansion Settings, Related Terms for more information.

- Format
- Year
- Language
- Any other limiters in any order
- Location

When searching multiple databases, limiters will appear in the following order:

- Peer review (if available)
- Open access
- Group related editions
- Format (as represented in WorldCat.org)
- Year
- Location
Watch a video

Advanced searches in WorldCat Discovery (8:44)

This video demonstrates how to use the Advanced Search feature in WorldCat® Discovery.

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Add and remove databases to searches

By default, some or all of a library's databases that are available in WorldCat Discovery will be selected. To view the default selections or to modify the selections for your search, navigate to the Advanced Search. When the database selection panel is open, it displays the currently selected databases and the additional databases available for selection.
Databases (A)
On the Advanced Search screen, you can see which databases are being searched by default. You can deselect databases to exclude them from your search and you can add databases that are available but are not searched by default. See the WorldCat Discovery settings and customizations page and see the section Select default databases for your search box for instructions to modify your library's administrative settings (in OCLC Service Configuration).

Database descriptions are provided underneath the database names. Descriptions are supplied by OCLC and cannot be changed by individual libraries. Descriptions are displayed in the language of the browser or of the locale. Databases show a lock icon if authentication is required to access content.

Database groups (B)
If you have configured database groups, you will see them listed on the Advanced Search screen. See the Select default databases for your search box section on the Settings and Configuration page for details on administrative settings for database groups.

Reset
The Reset button restores the selections to the default databases as defined in the administrative settings.

Watch a video
Select databases to search in WorldCat Discovery  (5:30)

This video demonstrates how to select databases on the Advanced Search screen to search in WorldCat® Discovery.

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