Citation Linker: Finding Known Articles

Has your prof asked you to read an important article but only gave you the reference to the article not the full paper? Or maybe you found a great article for your group project but only copied down a few parts of the reference? You know the articles you want but how can you find them quickly? This video demonstrates how to use Citation Linker to find known articles—online or in print—using the parts of a citation or reference.

Your citations might look different from this one, but they should contain similar elements: author name, year of publication, article title, journal title, volume number, issue number, page range and sometimes DOI, or Digital Object Identifier, a unique identifier for online articles only.

You can access Citation Linker from the uWaterloo Library homepage at lib.uwaterloo.ca.

Click on Resources for Research, second in the left-hand menu bar.

Click on E-Journal Titles, the second item in the dropdown menu.

Now click on Citation Linker which is the second bullet on the page.

The default setting in Journal Title is “Exact match”, but if you have incomplete journal titles, you can choose “Contains” or “Begins with”. Do not use journal abbreviations.

For best results, enter Journal Title, Year of Publication, Volume Number, and Start Page. Missing the article title, author name, DOI and ISSN is ok.

Remember to check your spelling and hit Enter from your computer keyboard.

This results page lists three ways to get the article.

If the library has the article online, the Full Text section should link you to the article. Click on one of these links to find a full-text copy of the article. You can try the different links to get the best result.

Check Our Catalogue section will lead you to our library catalogue called Primo, where you can find out whether the library has the journal in print if no online access is available. To learn about how to find print materials in the library, you can watch another video we've made: Finding Books in the Library.

When uWaterloo library doesn't have the article either online or in print, skip to Scholars Portal near the bottom of the page and send a request via interlibrary loan service called RACER. Note that all the information you’ve entered into Citation Linker is automatically transferred here. All you have to do is to choose a pickup location, log in with your WatCard, and click on Submit.

One way or another, Citation Linker gets the article for you.

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact the library. We are always happy to help!