

# Locating completed MPhil/PhD's Researcher Guide

## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Researcher Guide to searching for MPhil /PhD theses. This brief guide is directed at researchers starting post graduate research at Bournemouth University and is intended to answer your questions about searching for MPhil and PhD theses using online databases. Databases can be accessed from the Library's Database A-Z list [ [http://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/library/resources/databases\\_atoz.html](http://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/library/resources/databases_atoz.html) ].

## GENERAL BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATABASES

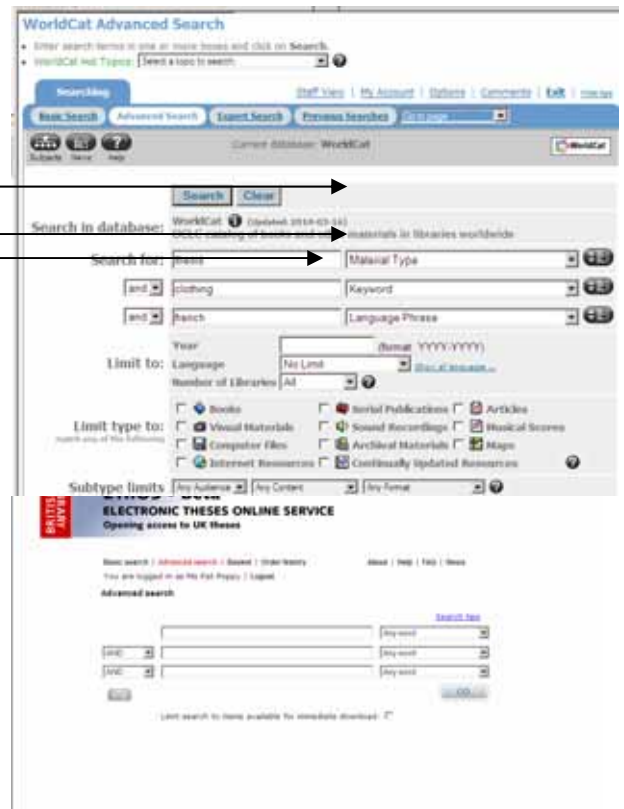
WorldCat [OCLC First Search] includes 4 million theses - MA/MSc as well as MPhil/PhD - with extensive geographical and chronological coverage. To limit the number of records you retrieve in such a large database use OCLC First Search *Advanced Search*.

This allows you to search for *thesis* in the *Material Type*

To make full use of *Keywords* and *subjects*.

And to search for specific languages by choosing *language phrase*

To access WorldCat you need an ATHENS User Name and Password.



## DEDICATED DATABASES

### ETHOS

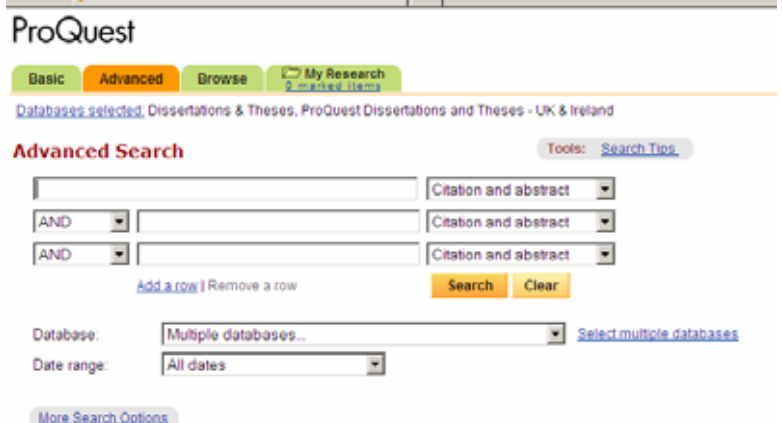
Electronic Theses Online Service (ETHOS) is a British Library service aimed at providing digital copies of UK PhD theses over the web. It is a database of the records of over 250,000 UK theses with the added functionality to enable the requesting of digital copies of selected theses. Personal registration on ETHOS is required to be able to download theses. Bournemouth University is an Open Access Sponsor of ETHOS.

### 3.2 Index to Theses [ASLIB]

A comprehensive listing of theses accepted for higher degrees in by universities in the Great Britain and Ireland. You are advised to use the Simple Search. This allows easy access to the ASLIB Classification Scheme.

Searches can combine *Abstract contains* a keyword, such as *radio* with a *Classified* search A6. *Theatre; Cinema; Broadcasting Press*, for the optimum search strategy.

Coverage is from 1716 -. BU staff/student login required for off-campus access



### 3.3 ProQuest Dissertations and Theses [PQDT]

It covers the Humanities and Social Sciences (1.4 million dissertations) and the Sciences and Engineering (1.7 million dissertations), and all levels from Masters, M.Phil. to PhD.

It is possible to search the UK and Ireland part of the database separately, choosing it from databases selected

PQDT has a sophisticated search interface with specific fields for *Degree (DG)* and *Subject (SU)* to help you refine your search.

Coverage is from: 1637 - ATHENS Authenticated.

### 3.4 DART-Europe E-theses Portal

[DART-Europe](#) is a partnership of research libraries and library consortia who are working together to improve global access to European research theses. Access to 131658 full-text research theses from 233 Universities sourced from 16 European countries

### 3.5 OpenThesis

[OpenThesis](#) is an American run free repository of theses, dissertations, and other academic documents.

## 4. BOURNEMOUTH UNIVERSITY MPhil AND PHD THESES

Recent Bournemouth University PhD thesis may be available full text online via the University's repository [BURO](#). Print versions and other PhD theses and Research Masters dissertations completed by BU researchers are held in the Library and can be searched for on the Library Catalogue. They are housed in the [Special Collections Room](#) in The Sir Michael Cobham Library, Talbot Campus. The room operates under a closed access arrangement. Please ask at the Library's Information Desk if you wish to apply for access.

## 5 OBTAINING THESES

If a thesis is not available full text online then it may be obtained through Inter-Library Loan. The clarity of your request is enhanced if you attach a printout of the source, for example a record from one of the databases above. Theses are often supplied as microform (film or fiche). There is a facility in the Sir Michael Cobham Library, Ground Floor to copy microfilm to CDR. Please ask at the Computer and Equipment Help Desk located in the Sir Michael Cobham Library near the entrance, for more information.

June 2010