Finding a Book or Video: Getting Started

- Books and videos can be an important part of your research, but finding the right ones can sometimes be a difficult process.
- This guide will walk you through the process of finding a book or video.
- On our homepage, locate the *Find Books and Videos* search box.
Initial Search

- Now you’ve found the search box, make an initial search; throw in some keywords or phrases you think will describe your topic.
- Note there are a number of search fields (ex. “Title”, “Subject”, “Author”, etc.) that you can select from -- if you want to search all the possible text associated with a work, choose “All Fields”.

![Search Interface Example](image-url)
Refining

- In the previous search we returned 974 results, which is way too many!
- To get fewer results, you can search for your keywords in the “Title” field, which only searches in the title(s) and subtitle(s) of our resources.
- In searching this way, we’ve gone from 974 results to 244 -- good!
A Look Inside

- Now let’s take a look inside the first record:

**A history of science and its relation with philosophy & religion**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Main Collection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Call Number</td>
<td>Q 125. D17 1961</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Status</td>
<td>Available</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Title:** A history of science and its relation with philosophy & religion

**Author:** Dampier, William Cecil

**Publisher:** Cambridge, England : Cambridge University Press

**Description:** 4th ed., reprinted with a postscript

**Format:** Book

**Subjects:** Philosophy, Science—History
Take Note!

- This book is located in the Main Collection and is currently available (see our General Use Guide to learn more about our collections).
- Note the “Subjects” (at the bottom), which are used to describe this book and others like it; if you find a Subject that describes your topic, don’t hesitate to click on it or use it in a future search, they’re really useful.

The Perfect Subject!

Religions
Philosophy, Comparative
Philosophy and religion
Religions
Philosophie comparée
Philosophie et religion
A Couple of Tricks: The First

- If you’re getting too many results, you might try quoting a phrase (" " ) to force the catalogue into searching a series of terms, or a phrase, together.
- This can really narrow down your search -- we’re now down to 85 results, which is a manageable number.

Welcome to the Library
A Couple of Tricks: The Second

- If you’re getting too few results, you might try a wildcard search, which uses the (?) character to search a number of keywords simultaneously.
- For instance, we might want to search a number of keywords, possibly philosophy, philosopher, philosophers, philosophies, etc.
- We could search all those keywords individually, or we could use the search (philosoph?) to get all those terms in one search.
Filtering

- Finally, if you *only* want a particular type of resource (eBooks, videos, etc.), you can use the “Filter Your Search” tool on the right-hand menu.
Closing Remarks

- Remember, good searching takes patience, so ensure you’ve got a distraction-free environment and some time on your hands before starting your search.
- Don’t be afraid to get creative or experiment with your searches -- the worst that’ll happen is that you won’t find quite what you were after.
- If you’re not getting results which work for you, try playing around with your keywords -- think of other ways to describe your topic.