

Where does all Brown's information come from?

If you follow these instructions you can fill up your coursework and exams with tons of references and make it look like you're really well informed.

The key to a lot of this information is a DMU username and password. This allows us access to a number of databases via 'institutional login' or 'Shibboleth login'.

There are various full text databases that I find useful:

Ebsco Host <http://search.ebscohost.com> When you get to the front page that asks you to login, click the thing that says 'institutional login' or it might say 'Shibboleth login'. You may need to 'select region', and then 'select institution' where we are often listed as 'De Montfort University Library Resources' or sometimes just 'De Montfort'. Then you'll need to put the DMU credentials in. A nice searchable facility – 'well worth a visit' as they used to say on Blue Peter. This points you to lots of things in full text pdf format. Covers a whole variety of disciplines

PsycINFO – Psychological Abstracts DMU subscribes to this via EBSCO Host, so if you go to the Library's database page <http://www.library.dmu.ac.uk/Resources/Databases/> and either select one of the options or type PsycINFO into the search box. This is one of my 'thinking tools'. If you want to know what has been written about a topic, this is what you need. It covers psychology of course, but coverage of the biological and medical sciences is pretty good, as is coverage of media studies, cultural studies, sociology and related disciplines too. The only disadvantage is that it only has abstracts and no full texts. However, we also now subscribe to the related PsychARTICLES which provides full text access to journals affiliated to the American Psychological Association.

Science Direct <http://www.sciencedirect.com>. More 'hard science' coverage. Likewise, when you get to the front page that asks you to login, click the thing that says 'login' and then select 'Athens/other institution login' and that will take you to another page into which you can select the institution and enter your login credentials. Again, lots of full text materials for you to download.

Ingenta Connect Access this from <http://www.ingentaconnect.com/> We don't seem to subscribe to very many full text titles on this one, but it might be worth a try. On the right hand side of the welcome page look for the 'Shibboleth login' option and select the institution and enter your credentials as before.

In addition sometimes it is a good idea to go and have a look at some specific publishers' websites too. For example

Blackwells and **Wiley** These seem to have merged lately and are at <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/> This, as the name suggests is a database of full text materials from journals published by Wiley and Blackwell There's an institutional login link towards the top right of the page. You know what to do.

Sage <http://online.sagepub.com/> This allows you to search journals published by Sage and gain access to a good many full text articles too. Use the 'sign in' button and this takes you to a page which offers a login option. Once again, if you find your way to the 'institutional login' option you can access some of the full text content via DMU credentials.

If you look at a good many publishers' websites you can find an institutional login feature to let you look at the contents of the journals to which DMU subscribes. Springer, Cambridge, Palgrave, Taylor and Francis, and many more. There are a few that don't work with this system, but many do.

The Library's list: The library also provides a list of the electronic journals to which DMU subscribes, accessible via its welcome page <http://www.library.dmu.ac.uk/Home/Welcome/>

Me: I have access to the electronic resources of some other libraries with different subscriptions so if an article was published in the last few years we might have access to it electronically. It saves having to request an interlibrary loan. Useful for projects too.

The British Medical Journal Good coverage of lots of issues relating to medical doctors of course, but issues relating to primary care and mental health and wellbeing, as they affect GPs especially, are catered for here. The electronic version is at <http://www.bmj.com> seems to work with DMU login credentials.

PubMed <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/> PubMed is a service of the U.S. National Library of Medicine (<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/>) that includes over 16 million citations from MEDLINE and other life science journals for biomedical articles back to the 1950s. PubMed includes links to full text articles and other related resources. Or at least that's what it says on its website!

CINAHL (The Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature) Find it via the Library's database page <http://www.library.dmu.ac.uk/Resources/Databases/> and type cinahl in the search box. As the name suggests it is about nursing but nurses are getting very busy these days doing things such as counseling, cognitive behavioural therapies, supporting primary care practices, and so on. Mental health nurses sometimes work for other institutions such as universities too. So there's a lot of interesting thinking going on in nursing.

Newspapers

Keeping an eye on what's been discussed in the press is valuable for any researcher, but very few of us have the time or the money to read all the papers. That's why newspaper databases are so excellent. They can also highlight other reports, research and documents that you can look for elsewhere. Very often when something of public interest comes out there are articles in the press about it.

Lexis Library (used to be **Lexis Nexis**) is available via DMU; go to the Library databases page <http://www.library.dmu.ac.uk/Resources/Databases/> and try typing Lexis into the search box. When you get in it looks like it's all about law, but there's an item called 'news' in one of the bars along the top. Probably the most useful because it allows you to search a great many newspapers including local ones as well as the nationals. So if you want to know what happens in celebrities' marriages, want to see what's happening concerning divorce legislation, or see what's been in the news about domestic violence, this is the place to be. Now, I'm not saying you should believe everything you read in the papers, but whenever reports come out, public inquiries are held, government policy is announced, and so on, it usually gets reported. So it's a guide to what's happening, and it may help you find the original documents, reports and speeches that make the news.