

Specialized Web Search Tools

This guide lists a select group of recommended search tools for quicker and more precise access to what you are looking for on the Web.

- **Looking for credible information for your research paper?** Use the tools listed under “Academic and Scholarly Information on the Web” or “Government Information on the Web.”
- **Need a visual to spice up your essay?** Use the tools listed under “Images on the Web.”
- **Interested in using multimedia during your class presentation?** Use the tools listed under “Audio, Video, and Multimedia on the Web.”

Academic and Scholarly Information on the Web



<http://scholar.google.com> - A good starting point for citations, abstracts and some full text of peer-reviewed papers, journal articles, books, and theses. Typically, materials are from academic publishers, professional societies, universities and other scholarly organizations. Sometimes, statistics on the number of other papers that have cited the publication are provided.

While *Google Scholar* may quickly point you to relevant material, you may have to use the PC Library to read the entire text of the publications. The [PC Library article databases](#) often contain the full-text of articles located through *Google Scholar*.



<http://infomine.ucr.edu> – A virtual library of over 35,000 Internet resources, compiled by librarians, suitable for scholarly research.



<http://www.scirus.com/srsapp> – A science-specific search engine to over 450 million scientific reports, journal articles, and governmental and university research websites. Many of the articles can be read in full-text using the PC Library article database, [ScienceDirect](#).



www.doaj.org – A directory of free open access journals that meet quality control standards of scientific and scholarly journals. Over 600 journals are searchable by topic.

Government Information on the Web



<http://usasearch.gov> - Search engine to federal and state government information. Includes a separate image search and a news search option (press releases, TV & radio announcements, and e-newsletters).



<http://www.google.com/unclesam> – Google's search engine to government and military websites.



<http://science.gov> - A gateway to authoritative selected science information provided by U.S. government agencies, including research and development results.

Images on the Web



<http://www.google.com/images> – Quick and easy way to locate images.



<http://www.flickr.com/creativecommons> – Access to thousands of quality-level photographs. Many of the contributing photographers add their photographs under the Creative Commons license, which is less stringent than the “all rights reserved” concept of traditional copyright. Use the See more links under the different licenses to pull up search boxes.



<http://www.exalead.com/image> - An innovative image search engine with over 2 billion images. Provides easy to use “Save” options, and the Advanced Search provides narrowing options (size, content, file type, realism, orientation, color) to get precisely what you want. A video search engine (<http://www.exalead.com/video>) is also available.



<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem> - Free and open access to still and moving images depicting the history of the American experience.

Be sure to use the guides “Citing References in an Oral Presentation” from the PC Library [Citing and Documenting Research](#) webpage for examples on how to cite images.

Audio, Video, and Multimedia on the Web



<http://blip.tv> - Access to videos from videobloggers, podcasters and Internet TV producers. Many of videos are licensed under Creative Commons, allowing for more liberal video sharing online.



<http://www.blinkx.com> – One of the largest search engines to access video and audio streams from television and radio broadcasters.



http://www.thefreesite.com/Free_Sounds/Free_WAVs - An index to multiple WAV sound files for commercials, cinema, TV, and sound effects. Includes a link to the popular, [A1 Free Sound Effects](#).



<http://www.metacafe.com> – Access to movie trailers, sports clips, and music videos. Site provides html code for embedding the videos.



<http://www.oaister.org> – A union catalog of digital resources. OAlster can be searched by Title, Author/Creator, Subject, Language or Entire Record. Searches can be limited by resource type, including image, audio, and video.



<http://video.search.yahoo.com/> – Yahoo video search includes an Advanced Search option where you can narrow your video search by format, duration, and domain (.com, .edu, .org, .gov).

Legal Considerations

While many images, audio, and video clips can be copied to your computer, this does not mean you have the right to use them anyway you want. Web images, audio, and video fall under copyright law, unless the copyright owner explicitly forgoes their rights. Fortunately, there is some flexibility in using these formats in education, such as in a research paper or during an in-class presentation. Consult the [Copyright and Fair Use Guide for PC Students](#) for specific instructions.

Contact a librarian if you need more help.

[Ask a Librarian](#) 24/7 Chat with a librarian. Accessible from the PC Library Home page
Library Reference Desk (602) 285-7470