

Cited Reference Searching

A cited reference search identifies articles and other sources that have cited a previously published work in the bibliography.

Why use it?

Use cited reference searching for the following reasons:

- To see how the scholarly conversation has evolved over time from the published work.
- Assess the author's impact and the publication's influence.
- Identify scholars within your research area.
- Find gaps in the scholarly conversation.
- Find seminal papers on a research topic.
- Discover the currency of the work.
- Identify newer and relevant articles that may relate to your research.
- See the interdisciplinarity of the published work.

How does it work?

Some databases provide this feature on their platforms. After conducting a search, you'll click a link that shows what sources *have cited* the one listed in the results. For example, in Google Scholar, the link will say "cited by" and then a specific number. In Web of Science, it will say a specific number followed by the word "citations," as opposed to the word references, which will show you the list of sources in that work's bibliography.

Compare your Options

Web of Science

Web of Science is curated by humans. It only identifies citing articles that are indexed in Web of Science.

Google Scholar

Google Scholar is not human-curated, so some of the sources may not be scholarly or could be duplicates. This database indexes a wider variety of sources that include those indexed outside of Web of Science.

OneSearch

The Library's OneSearch tool also provides both a citation tracking and reference searching tool.

Take a Closer Look

For a more in-depth explanation of cited reference searching and how to conduct cited reference searches in Web of Science and Google Scholar, check out the following video:

<https://bit.ly/citedrefsearching>