RESEARCH SERVICES

OhioLINK
Get books that aren’t available at Oberlin for free

Research Appointments
Meet one-on-one with a librarian to discuss sources and strategies

FINDING BOOKS, FILMS, GRAPHIC NOVELS, MUSIC ETC.

OBIS is the Oberlin College Library’s online catalog – all items owned or accessed by the OCL system are listed.

- **Keyword**: searches for words or combinations of words that appear *anywhere* in an OBIS record
- **Subject Heading**: searches OBIS records using official Library of Congress Subject Headings for items *about* a topic

FINDING BACKGROUND/CONTEXTUAL SOURCES

- Gale Virtual Reference Library
- Oxford Reference
- Oxford Music/Grove Music Online
- OBIS - Advanced Search – “Type of text or topic” - Limit *Location* to *Main Library Reference*

FINDING ARTICLES USING DATABASES

There are subject-specific databases for finding specific types (i.e. scholarly journals, magazines, newspapers, etc.) articles. Some to consider:

- Film & Television Literature Index
- Communication & Mass Media Complete
- MLA International Bibliography
- Art Full Text
MAKE A RESEARCH PLAN

• Get background information & context
• Determine what kind(s) of information is needed
  o Books or articles or films, etc.
  o Popular or scholarly or technical
  o Primary sources or secondary sources
• Consider who is likely to produce the information
  o Scholars
  o Journalists
  o Professionals in a field
• Determine which sources will help you find that information
  o Library catalogs
  o Databases
  o Other online resources
• Brainstorm terminology
• Be flexible and creative
• Search and then re-search
• Organize your research with a citation manager or other note-taking system