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Finding Full-text Periodical Articles

Finding full-text articles is easy, once you become familiar with the resources available to you.

There are three possible scenarios:

1. You have a citation for an article
2. You have an incomplete citation for an article
3. You need to search for articles on a topic

Scenario 1: You have a complete citation and want to obtain the full-text article

1. Use Maxwell Library's "A-Z Journal and Newspaper Title List" Go to <https://library.bridgew.edu/find/articles> and click on the "Journals/Newspapers A-Z" link.
2. In the A-Z list "Find" box, type in the name of the publication that your article appears in.

You will get one of three possible results:

1. The name of the periodical you want is listed, one or more periodical databases is listed below the publication title, **and** the periodical is covered in the database for the date that you need (the dates of coverage are listed after the database name). In this case, simply follow the link into a database and follow on-screen prompts to get to the full-text of the article you are seeking.
2. The name of the periodical you want is listed, and one or more databases **may** be listed, **but** the dates of coverage don't include the date of the article you want; however, a note shows that the periodical you want – and the date that you need – is in Maxwell Library's print collection, housed on the first floor of the library. In this case, go to Maxwell Library and retrieve the periodical and article from the periodical shelves. If you are a BSU student or faculty or staff member, you can also request the item through MaxExpress (<https://library.bridgew.edu/services/ill-dds>). MaxExpress is a service offered by the library that emails scanned copies of articles that are *owned* by Maxwell Library to individuals in the aforementioned categories.

3. Either the name of the periodical you are looking for is not listed, or any databases listed and/or the print collection do not cover the date you need. In this case, you can request the article through Interlibrary Loan (<https://library.bridgew.edu/services/ill-dds>).

Scenario 2: You have an incomplete citation and want to obtain the full-text article

Your first step is typically to try to find the full citation. How easy or hard this will be depends on how much information you have, as well as a number of other factors, such as how common or unique the author's last name is, how long ago the article was published, how obscure or popular both the author and publication are, etc.

Try this:

1. Ask a professor if they know of the article and if they can fill in some of the missing citation parts.
2. Do a Google search (or a Google Scholar search), entering as much information as you have. Perhaps the citation will come up.
3. Try one of Maxwell Library's periodical databases. Choose one that covers the subject of the article (i.e., a science database for an article on a scientific topic, etc., or try a general academic database, such as *Academic Search Premier*). Perhaps you'll find the citation, or even the full-text of the article.
4. Ask a librarian for assistance in finding the full citation.

Once you have a full citation, you can then follow the steps in Scenario 1 to obtain the full-text.

Scenario 3: You need to search for articles on a topic

You can search any of Maxwell Library's periodical databases to find full-text journal articles. For those articles for which you only find citations or abstracts in the databases, you can always request them through Interlibrary Loan. Most of the databases will provide a direct link to Maxwell Library's Interlibrary Loan request form, but if not, you can get to the Interlibrary Loan request form at (<https://library.bridgew.edu/services/ill-dds>).

If you have any questions, please ask a librarian.