Using Mirlyn, from an engineering perspective.

**Mirlyn:** [http://mirlyn.lib.umich.edu](http://mirlyn.lib.umich.edu)

Mirlyn is the Library Catalog at the University of Michigan. The UM community, as well as the general public, may use Mirlyn to search for and locate books, journals, online resources, etc. accessible via the UM libraries.

To take full advantage of Mirlyn and other UM Library online services, you must be signed on to the library system using your Kerberos uniqname and password. If you are a current student, faculty, or staff member and have never used library resources before, you’ll need to get your MCard activated for library use at one of the campus libraries.

When you begin a new Mirlyn session you will be taken directly to the **Search Home** page:

![Welcome to the new Mirlyn!](image)

From this page you can search for **journal titles or books** in the entire UM Library catalog. If you are looking for journal titles or books and prefer to limit your search to a particular UM library’s collection, go to advanced search to select the collection you want to search. Additional library catalogs in Michigan are available and can be accessed by scrolling to the bottom of the page and clicking on “Find other library catalogs” under the Find More header.

You can also conduct a search in Mirlyn from the top of any library’s homepage in the Search box, using either the “MLibrary” or “Catalog” tab. Note that the search from the “MLibrary” tab does not allow you to choose which fields you are searching; it searches “All fields” by default.
If you are looking for articles, follow the “Search Tools” link at the top of the page. This will take you to the UM Library’s Search Tools interface, where you can access databases to which the Library subscribes. If you are off campus, you will need to log in to the university system to use most of these databases. You can search within these databases for journal articles, many of which are available full text online. If the article full-text is not available online from the database you are searching in, click on the MGetIt button to see if UM owns the article elsewhere.

Searching tips:

The most general, comprehensive search is the “All fields” search. This search looks through each record in the catalog to find which records include one or both of your keyword(s). You will get the most results with this search.

If you know one or two words that are definitely in the title, choose “Title.” This will limit your search to records with that word(s) anywhere in the title.

If you want to search for more than one characteristic of an item, such as title and author, you can mix and match searches using the advanced search form:
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You can further refine your search by specifying other formats (such as music or video), other languages besides English, and a particular UM Library collection.

Also, once you have conducted your initial search, options to refine your results will appear on the left-hand side of the screen. These are useful for narrowing your results by year, library, subject, and more.
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For more tips on advanced searching techniques, have a look at the help pages, pick up a database specific handout, or consult with a librarian at the Art, Architecture & Engineering reference desk.

**Finding BOOKS, using Mirlyn**

Let’s say you are looking for a book called *Laser-Assisted Microtechnology*. A basic “Title” search for “laser assisted microtechnology” will have results that look something like this:
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The first and second items are different editions of the same book. The items listed after those are conference proceedings that have similar titles.

To see if the book is available, check what it says under “Status” under the title and author information:

This particular is book is currently on the shelf in the basement of AAEL. In the case that a book is checked out, there would be a date listed, which is the due date. You can also view more information about the book by clicking on the title to open the full record.

If you want the book before the due date, you can place a recall on it. Click on the “Get this” button in the “Holdings” tab to login and submit information about where you want the book to be delivered for you to pick up.
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Clicking on the “Get This” link will take you to an online request form:

Be sure to select the library at which you would like to pick up the book. If the book is being recalled it can be held at the owning library.

If a book is not checked out and is available at a location that is inconvenient for you, then you can use the “Get This” button to request that the book be delivered and held for you at a different library. Use this only when you want to pick up a book at a library that is different from the library where the book is normally shelved. Books cannot be delivered to the owning library if it is not a recall. This process usually takes about one day.

ALWAYS CHECK FOR MULTIPLE COPIES: There may be an available copy of the book you want at another UM library. For example, UM owns three copies of this book:
One copy is at the Art, Architecture & Engineering Library, one is at the Graduate Library, and one is at Buhr, an off-site shelving facility. If one of these copies were checked out or otherwise unavailable, there would be two other copies available to use.

**Finding JOURNALS, using Mirlyn**

Use Mirlyn to find if UM subscribes to a particular journal. Search for the journal (source) title, not the title of an article and not the author of an article.
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In the Art, Architecture & Engineering Library, all current journal issues are shelved on the 2nd floor. Bound issues (older journals that have been bound together) are split between the 2nd floor (call numbers beginning with the letters A through QC) and the 3rd floor (call numbers beginning with QD through Z).

**If you only have an abbreviation of the title**, the first thing to do is find out the real title of the journal. The best way to do that is to use the book *Periodical Title Abbreviations: By Abbreviation*, which is kept behind the AAEL reference desk.

You can use “Journal/Serial title” to filter books out of your results.

A search for the journal *Nature* is a good example. You can see from the results page that this particular journal is located in numerous different libraries, including AAEL. Additionally, within AAEL, you can see that we have current and older issues.
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It’s always a good idea to open the full record and check to make sure the library owns the specific volume or issue that you are looking for. The “Holdings” tab contains the specific information you’ll need in order to determine where you can get your article. Click on “more…” under each location to see which issues are present there. For example: by clicking on “more…” under “Electronic Resources,” you can see which years of publication are available electronically:

You can also view which issues we have at AAEL in the current journals area on the second floor:
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If the library does not own the volume/issue of the article you are looking for, place a request through Interlibrary Loan (http://ill.lib.umich.edu).

You can view and search electronic journals at http://www.lib.umich.edu/ejournals/.

**Finding CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS using Mirlyn**

**ALWAYS DO AN “ALL FIELDS” SEARCH FOR CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS**

That’s the rule. It’s almost impossible to guess the “correct” title according to Mirlyn. There is almost no way to guess what will be listed as the official title and author(s) of a conference proceeding. Conferences are just about the hardest thing to find in Mirlyn.

Suppose you are looking for the proceedings from the 1977 IFAC International Symposium on Information Control Problems in Manufacturing. The words ‘international’, ‘conference’, ‘symposium’, and ‘proceedings’ are too general and common in conference titles. Pick one of those words, and then use other less common words (in this case good choices are ‘IFAC’, ‘information’, and ‘control’).

If you know the year and/or the place of the conference, try using that in the search as well. For example:
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Using the year and/or the city in your keyword search is usually helpful, but sometimes they get in the way. If you don’t find the proceeding with these in your search terms, search again without them.

Search Tip: If you know that some words will appear right next to each other, you can narrow your search by putting the words in quotes. This tells Mirlyn to search for records with that phrase. In the previous search, if the second listing was what you were looking for, a phrase search for “problems in manufacturing” could help narrow the search.

REMEMBER:

- Use an “All Fields” search because the title in Mirlyn might not match what you think the title is.
- Pick your keywords carefully and choose the least common words in your search.

Major society proceedings:

- ACM (Association for Computing Machinery):
  [http://searchtools.lib.umich.edu/V?func=native-link&resource=UMI01183](http://searchtools.lib.umich.edu/V?func=native-link&resource=UMI01183)
- AIAA (American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics):
  [http://searchtools.lib.umich.edu/V?func=native-link&resource=UMI01188](http://searchtools.lib.umich.edu/V?func=native-link&resource=UMI01188)
- ASCE (American Society of Civil Engineers):
  [http://searchtools.lib.umich.edu/V?func=native-link&resource=UMI01842](http://searchtools.lib.umich.edu/V?func=native-link&resource=UMI01842)
- ASME (American Society of Mechanical Engineers):
  [http://searchtools.lib.umich.edu/V?func=native-link&resource=UMI05251](http://searchtools.lib.umich.edu/V?func=native-link&resource=UMI05251)
- ASTM (American Society for Testing & Materials):
  [http://searchtools.lib.umich.edu/V?func=native-link&resource=UMI05243](http://searchtools.lib.umich.edu/V?func=native-link&resource=UMI05243)
- IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers):
  [http://searchtools.lib.umich.edu/V?func=native-link&resource=UMI01167](http://searchtools.lib.umich.edu/V?func=native-link&resource=UMI01167)
- MRS (Materials Research Society):
  [http://searchtools.lib.umich.edu/V?func=native-link&resource=UMI05252](http://searchtools.lib.umich.edu/V?func=native-link&resource=UMI05252)
- SAE (Society of Automotive Engineers):
  [http://searchtools.lib.umich.edu/V?func=native-link&resource=UMI01168](http://searchtools.lib.umich.edu/V?func=native-link&resource=UMI01168)
- SPIE (Society of Photo-Optical Instrumentation Engineers):
  [http://searchtools.lib.umich.edu/V?func=native-link&resource=UMI01304](http://searchtools.lib.umich.edu/V?func=native-link&resource=UMI01304)

Interlibrary Loan (ILL)

When UM Libraries do not have the book, journal, or conference proceeding you want, you can request that we borrow it from another library via Interlibrary Loan.

Make an Interlibrary Loan request by filling out the relevant form at [http://ill.lib.umich.edu](http://ill.lib.umich.edu). Please note that this interface handles both ILL and 7Fast (on campus delivery) requests, so be sure to make your Interlibrary Loan request by clicking on one of the options under “Not owned by MLibrary.”
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Articles usually arrive electronically as PDFs within a couple of days, while books and other physical media may take a week or two. You can view your electronic articles by returning to the ILL interface and clicking on “Electronically Received Articles” from the left navigation bar. Books and other physical materials will be delivered to your default ILL delivery location. You can change this by going to https://ill.lib.umich.edu/illiad/ChangeSite/ChangeSite.asp.

For more information about using Mirlyn or other library resources: Stop by the Art, Architecture & Engineering Library Reference Desk, give us a call at 734-647-5735, or send a message to aael.ref@umich.edu.

Updated 8/19/09 by henrysm