Script of Library Catalog Search for Path Tutorial Mod 4, part 2

We have new search interface, where you can search almost all of the Libraries’ collections from one simple search box. This search brings together multiple resources from our physical collections within the libraries like books, music, government documents, DVDs, as well as electronic content such as millions of popular & scholarly articles (a topic covered in the Modules 5 & 6 of this Path tutorial) It allows you to easily search beyond just the UNCG Libraries and you can always use our free Interlibrary loan or ILL services to request an item UNCG doesn’t own from another library.

Start your search at library.uncg.edu and use the box at the top.

Searching for a topic of "recycling" I may find resources that use the words recycle or recycles or recycled or recycling. By truncating or shortening to the root of the word and using the asterisk I can search all these forms. [(type in recycl*) and hit search.]

I see a few good results of books we own, and click on “availability” to see if its not checked out & available at UNCG libraries. But there are a lot of results to sort through that aren’t so focused on my school or college aspect of the topic, so I can refine my search to be more specific. As we learned in Mod 2 of Path tutorial, often times we use the word "and" between two concepts, to search for resources containing both. But in WorldCat Local we use “+” sign instead. When adding synonyms of a word use OR or the “|” pipe symbol. [show jenny’s venn diagram?] Let’s try adding the “+ school”. Now I results that are much more focused on my topic. I can also easily limit the formats of resources on the left. Since my results now include anything I’m really just looking for books right now- I can check this box and limit to just books. I might also choose to limit to Non-Fiction since I’m not looking to read a novel but find some research. A lot less results but more focused.

My professor mentioned a specific book she thought I should read called “Sustainability on Campus” but we aren’t sure its available at UNCG. All I need to do is type the title in quotes to search for this phrase. The first result looks right - “sustainability on campus: stories and strategies for change” And it’s not only available in the library in the stacks as a print book, but it’s also an ebook you can view right now online. When I click on it being off campus I am prompted for a login and password, but then can read the book from wherever I am.

I have also discovered a key author in the field whose name is William McDonough. Type in the name and hit search. Down on the left I can choose a specific author, but there looks like several variations of this name and I’m not sure which is him. Since I know he wrote this first book listed here, Cradle to Cradle I can click on the title, then click on his name and get all the results of items written by him or about him. A cool feature to check out, if I scroll down to the DETAILS, I can “Find more information about: the author” and easily see an overview of his works!

Remember, If you still have questions, you can always Ask Us! [show ask us screen]