

FIGHT THE ROT:
IMPROVING SUPPORT FOR LINKING TO
ELECTRONIC RESOURCES



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GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

GUGM 2023

THE PROBLEM

- **IF YOUR WEB PRESENCE IS LIKE OURS, BROKEN LINKS ABOUND**
THIS INCLUDES THE LIBRARY WEBSITE, THE LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM, SYLLABUSES, READING LISTS, ETC.
- **SOME LINKS BREAK NATURALLY, SOME ARE BAD TO BEGIN WITH**
WE WORRY ABOUT BOTH, BUT ESPECIALLY THE LATTER.
- **LIBRARY PERSONNEL ARE ONLY A LITTLE LESS LIKELY TO CREATE BAD LINKS**
OUR COLLEAGUES NEED AS MUCH SUPPORT CREATING RELIABLE LINKS AS OUR PATRONS.

MY GOD, IT'S FULL OF BROKEN LINKS

THE PROBLEM

- THE DREADED SESSION ID...

[HTTPS://EDS.B.EBSCOHOST.COM/EDS/DETAIL/DETAIL?VID=1&SID=6367059C-2227-467D-9A35-511E7333233C%40SESSIONMGR102&BDATA=#AN=GAS.9915882143802950&DB=CAT05752A](https://eds.b.ebscohost.com/eds/detail/detail?vid=1&sid=6367059c-2227-467d-9a35-511e7333233c%40sessionmgr102&bdata=#AN=GAS.9915882143802950&DB=CAT05752A)

- THE LINK THAT DOESN'T AUTHENTICATE OFF CAMPUS...

[HTTPS://DOI.ORG/10.1007/978-3-540-68832-7](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-540-68832-7)

MY GOD, IT'S FULL OF BROKEN LINKS

OUR SOLUTION

DEVELOPED OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS, THE “LINKING TO LIBRARY RESOURCES” GUIDE INCLUDES:

- ONE ARTICLE ON CREATING DATABASE FRIENDLY URLS
- ONE ARTICLE ON CREATING GIL-FIND PERMALINKS
- ~175 ARTICLES ON CREATING DATABASE ITEM AND RESULT LIST URLS

The screenshot shows the Georgia Southern University Library Guides website. The header includes the university logo and the text 'GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY'. The breadcrumb trail reads 'University Libraries / Library Guides / Linking to Library Resources / Home'. A 'Chat' button is in the top right. The main heading is 'Linking to Library Resources' with a sub-heading 'Create shareable links to library databases and resources.' The page contains introductory text, a bulleted list of instructions, a search box, and a grid of database links.

University Libraries / Library Guides / Linking to Library Resources / Home Chat

Linking to Library Resources

Create shareable links to library databases and resources.

This guide provides instructions for how to create shareable links for the Libraries' databases and resources. These links work on and off campus in Folio, course syllabuses, reading lists, and emails.

- To link to the homepage of one of the Libraries' databases, [follow these instructions](#).
- To link to a list of journals or to all of the Libraries' holdings for a specific journal, [follow these instructions](#).
- To link to a list of results or to a specific resource in one of the Libraries' databases, search for the database below.

If you do not see instructions you need, [Ask Us!](#)

Search for a database

ABI/INFORM Collection (Pro...	Academic Search Complete ...	Accounting Research Manag...	Accounting, Tax & Banking C...
ACM Digital Library (Associa...	ACS Publications (American ...	Advanced Placement Source...	Advanced Technologies & Ae...
African American Biographic...	AGRICOLA (EBSCOhost)	Agricultural & Environmental ...	Agriculture Science Databas...
Alt HealthWatch (EBSCOhost)	American Antiquarian Societ...	American Antiquarian Societ...	American Antiquarian Societ...
American Antiquarian Societ...	American Antiquarian Societ...	American National Biography...	American Race Relations: GI...
Ancestry Library Edition	AnthroSource	Arts & Humanities Database ...	Arts and Humanities Citation ...
Artstor @ JSTOR	Artstor Digital Library	ArXiv.org	ASCE Library
Asian & European Business ...	ASM Handbooks Online	ASTM Standards in Building ...	ATLA Historical Monographs ...

<https://georgiasouthern.libguides.com/links>

DATABASE FRIENDLY URLS

WE USE LIBGUIDES' [A-Z DATABASE LIST](#), SO THIS ARTICLE EXPLAINS HOW TO USE THE **SHARE** ICON TO OBTAIN THE LIBRARIES' FRIENDLY URL FOR EACH DATABASE.

WE OCCASIONALLY SEE LIBRARY FACULTY AND STAFF USING THE ADDRESS BAR URL AFTER CLICKING ON THE FRIENDLY URL, SO THIS DESERVES AN ARTICLE!

Linking to Library Resources

Create shareable links to library databases and resources.

Home

Database Friendly URLs

Journals & Holdings

Search for a database

Just start typing...

Link to a Database Using the Friendly URL

To create a shareable link to any of the University Libraries' supported databases:

1. Locate the database on the Libraries' [A-Z Database List](#).
2. Click the **Share icon** (↵) to the right of the database name.
3. Highlight and copy the database's **Friendly URL** from the popup window.

Use the database's Friendly URL to share or create a new link to the database.

Note: Do not copy the URL that appears in the address bar of your browser after you click on the database's friendly URL to create or share a link to the database.

The screenshot shows the 'University Libraries / A-Z Databases' page. A search bar at the top contains 'ESCO'. Below, a list of databases is shown, with 'Academic Search Complete' highlighted. A blue callout box points to the database name with the text '1. Locate the database.' Another blue callout box points to the share icon (a right-pointing arrow) next to the database name with the text '2. Click the Share icon to the right of the database.' A third blue callout box points to the 'Friendly URL' in the share popup window with the text '3. Highlight and copy the Friendly URL for the database.' The share popup window is open, showing the URL 'https://georgiasouthern.libguides.com/db_15975038' highlighted in red. The popup also includes a 'Send' button and a 'Close' button.

Share this link with Georgia Southern students, faculty, and staff. This link should work on or off campus.

For more information, [Ask Us!](#)

<https://georgiasouthern.libguides.com/links/friendly-urls>

GIL-FIND PERMALINKS

THIS ARTICLE EXPLAINS HOW TO USE THE PERMALINK FEATURE IN GIL-FIND RECORDS.

THIS ARTICLE IS MORE FOR THE BENEFIT OF FACULTY, FOR EXAMPLE THOSE WHO LINK TO THE BROWSE PAGE FOR A PARTICULAR JOURNAL TITLE IN THE DATABASE RATHER THAN TO THE RECORD IN GIL-FIND. AS A RESULT, THEIR LINK DOESN'T ACCOUNT FOR ADDITIONAL HOLDINGS OR HOLDINGS CHANGES OVER TIME.

GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

University Libraries / Library Guides / Linking to Library Resources / Journals & Holdings Chat

Linking to Library Resources

Create shareable links to library databases and resources.

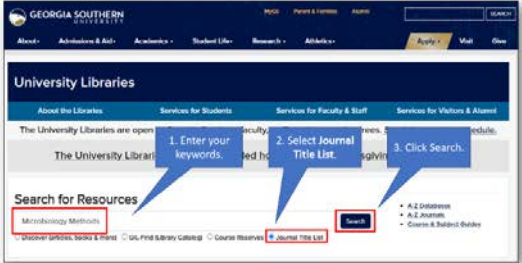
- Home
- Database Friendly URLs
- Journals & Holdings

Search for a database
Just start typing...

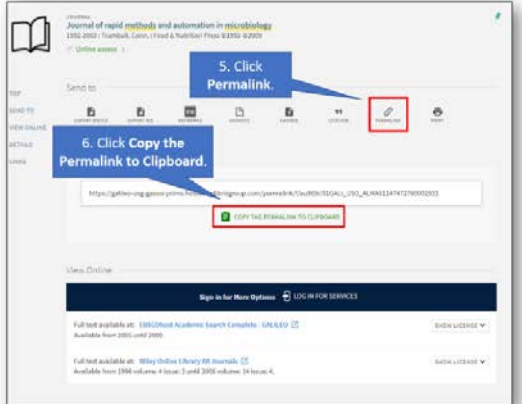
Link to Journal Holdings

To create a shareable link to the Libraries' holdings of a specific journal, navigate to the Libraries' homepage, then:

1. In the **Search for Resources** form, type in your keywords.
2. Select the **Journal Title List** option.
3. Click **Search**. You will be directed to a result list of journals for which the Libraries have holdings.



4. In the result list, click on the **Title** of the journal for which you want a shareable link. You will be directed to the detailed display for the title.
5. Click **Permalink**.
6. Click **Copy the Permalink to Clipboard**.



Share this link with Georgia Southern students, faculty, and staff. This link should work on or off campus.

For more information, [Ask Us!](#)

ITEM & RESULT LIST URLs

FOR EVERY DATABASE THAT APPEARS ON OUR [A-Z DATABASE LIST](#), WE INCLUDE AN ARTICLE ON HOW TO CREATE A LINK TO AN ITEM RECORD OR RESULT LIST.

IN EACH CASE, WE EXPLAIN HOW TO CREATE A LINK THAT WILL AUTHENTICATE ON OR OFF CAMPUS.

THESE ARTICLES ARE THE CENTERPIECE OF THE "LINKING TO LIBRARY RESOURCES" GUIDE AND ARE TARGETED TO PATRONS AND LIBRARY PERSONNEL ALIKE.

Linking to Library Resources

Create shareable links to library databases and resources.

- Home
- Database Friendly URLs
- Journals & Holdings

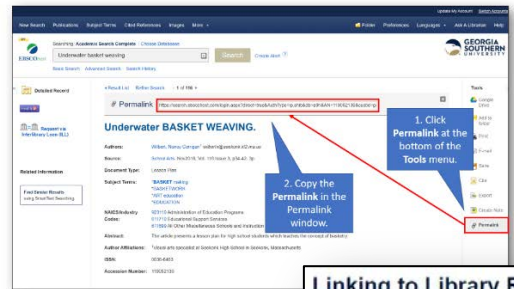
Search for a database
Just start typing...

Link to a Resource

To create a shareable link to a specific resource in any EBSCOhost database, open the database using the link on the Libraries' [A-Z Database List](#), locate the resource, then:

1. From the detailed record for the specific resource, click **Permalink** at the bottom of the **Tools** menu.
2. Highlight and copy the **Permalink** that appears in the **Permalink** window above the resource information.

Notes: *Do not copy the URL that appears in the address bar of your browser to create or share a link to the resource.* The EBSCOhost platform may require you to log into a personal MyEBSCOhost account to obtain the permalink. For more information about MyEBSCOhost accounts, [see here](#).



Share this link with Georgia Southern students, faculty, and staff

For more information, [Ask Us!](#)

Linking to Library Resources

Create shareable links to library databases and resources.

- Home
- Database Friendly URLs
- Journals & Holdings

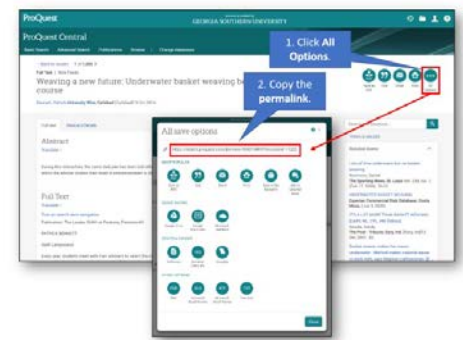
Search for a database
Just start typing...

Link to a Resource

To create a shareable link to a specific resource in any ProQuest database, open the database using the link on the Libraries' [A-Z Database List](#), locate the resource, then:

1. From the detailed record for the specific resource, click **All Options** in the upper right-hand corner of the record.
2. Highlight and copy the **Permalink** that appears at the top of the popup window.

Notes: *Do not copy the URL that appears in the address bar of your browser to create or share a link to the resource.*



Share this link with Georgia Southern students, faculty, and staff. This link should work on or off campus.

For more information, [Ask Us!](#)

UNIQUE LINKS, UNIQUE INSTRUCTIONS

INSTRUCTIONS VARY ACCORDING TO WHAT IS REQUIRED BY EACH VENDOR PLATFORM TO GENERATE A STABLE, AUTHENTICATABLE URL.

- IN SOME CASES, THE VENDOR'S **BUILT-IN LINKING TOOL** IS ADEQUATE.
- FOR MANY DATABASES USING OPEN ATHENS, WE EXPLAIN HOW TO USE THE **LINK GENERATOR**.
- FOR DATABASES USING EZPROXY, WE EXPLAIN HOW TO **ADD THE PREFIX**.

University Libraries / Library Guides / Linking to Library Resources / Emerald Insight

Linking to Library Resources

Create shareable links to library databases and resources

Home
Database Friendly URLs
Journals & Holdings

Search for a database
Just start typing...

Link to a Resource

To create a shareable link to a specific resource in **Emerald Insight**, open the database using the link on the Libraries' A-Z Database List, locate the resource, then:

1. From the detailed record for the specific resource, copy the URL that appears in the Address Bar of your browser.

1. Copy the URL that appears in the Address Bar.

2. Open the **OpenAthens Link Generator** in a separate window.
3. Type **Georgia Southern University** in the **Find your organization** search bar.
4. Select the drop down result for **Georgia Southern University**.

3. Type Georgia Southern University into the Search Bar.

4. Select the drop down result for Georgia Southern University.

5. Paste the URL into the **Enter more links** box.
6. Copy the **OpenAthens Link** that appears on the right side of the screen.

5. Paste the URL into the Enter more links box.

6. Copy the OpenAthens Link.

Share this link with Georgia Southern students, faculty, and staff. This link should work on or off campus.

For more information, [Ask Us!](#)

University Libraries / Library Guides / Linking to Library Resources / Films On Demand

Linking to Library Resources

Create shareable links to library databases and resources

Home
Database Friendly URLs
Journals & Holdings

Search for a database
Just start typing...

Link to a Resource

To create a shareable link to a specific resource in **Films On Demand**, open the database using the link on the Libraries' A-Z Database List, locate the resource, then:

1. From the detailed record for the specific resource, click **Share** below the video player.
2. Click **Link** at the top of the **Share To** popup window.
3. Click **Copy** for the **Record URL**.

2. Click Link.

3. Click Copy for the Record URL.

Notes: Do not copy the URL that appears in the address bar of your browser to create or share a link to the resource.

Share To
Link
Copy

Share this link with Georgia Southern students, faculty, and staff. This link should work on or off campus.

University Libraries / Library Guides / Linking to Library Resources / Ancestry Library Edition

Linking to Library Resources

Create shareable links to library databases and resources

Home
Database Friendly URLs
Journals & Holdings

Search for a database
Just start typing...

Link to a Resource

To create a shareable link to a specific resource in **Ancestry Library Edition**, open the database using the link on the Libraries' A-Z Database List, locate your resource, then:

1. From the detailed record for the specific resource, highlight and copy the URL in the Address Bar of your browser.

1. Copy the URL that appears in the Address Bar.

2. Open any text editor on your computer (e.g. Microsoft Word, Notepad).
3. Paste the URL into the text editor.

3. Paste the URL into the text editor.

4. Copy the following text and paste it immediately in front of the URL in the text editor. Leave no spaces between the text and the URL.

`https://libez.lib.georgiasouthern.edu/login?url=`

5. Copy the new URL from the text editor.

4. Paste the additional text in front of the URL in the text editor, leaving no spaces between the text and the URL.

5. Copy the new URL from the text editor.

Share this link with Georgia Southern students, faculty, and staff. This link should work on or off campus.

For more information, [Ask Us!](#)

ONE ARTICLE, MANY DATABASES

MANY DATABASES DO NOT REQUIRE A
UNIQUE ARTICLE OR STEPS.

FOR EXAMPLE, ALL EBSCOHOST,
PROQUEST PLATFORM, AND WEB OF
SCIENCE DATABASES USE THE SAME
ARTICLE.

ALSO, MANY ARTICLES SHARE SIMILAR
STEPS THAT CAN BE COPIED... FOR
EXAMPLE, ANY DATABASE USING THE
ADDRESS BAR URL AND THE OPEN
ATHENS LINK GENERATOR HAS THE
SAME INSTRUCTIONS.

Linking to Library Resources

Create shareable links to library databases and resources.

- Home
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- Journals & Holdings

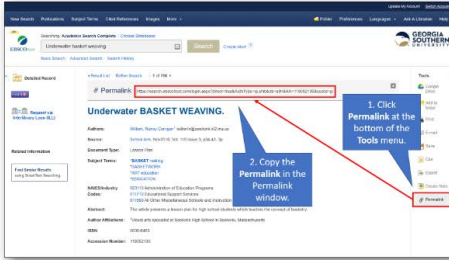
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Linking to Library Resources

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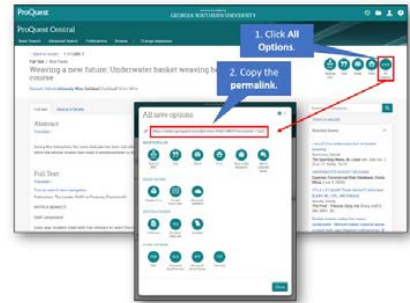
Search for a database
Just start typing...

Link to a Resource

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2. Highlight and copy the **Permalink** that appears at the top of the popup window.

Notes: *Do not copy the URL that appears in the address bar of your browser to create or share a link to the resource.*



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Linking to Library Resources

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Search for a database
Just start typing...

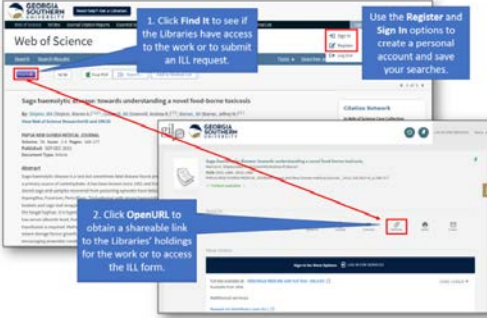
Link to Holdings

Web of Science does not support shareable links, either for search results or for individual works. You may save your searches by registering for a personal account, however, doing so will not provide you with a shareable link to the search results.

Alternately, you may use the **Find It** button that appears with individual works to obtain a shareable link to the Libraries' holdings for the work, or to request the work via Interlibrary Loan (ILL). To do this, open the database using the link on the Libraries' [A-Z Database List](#), conduct your search, then:

1. Click on the **Find It** button in any record to access the Libraries' holdings information for the work.
2. Click **OpenURL** to obtain a shareable link to the holdings information page.

Use the OpenURL to share or create a new link to the Libraries' holdings for the work, or to access a pre-filled ILL request form.



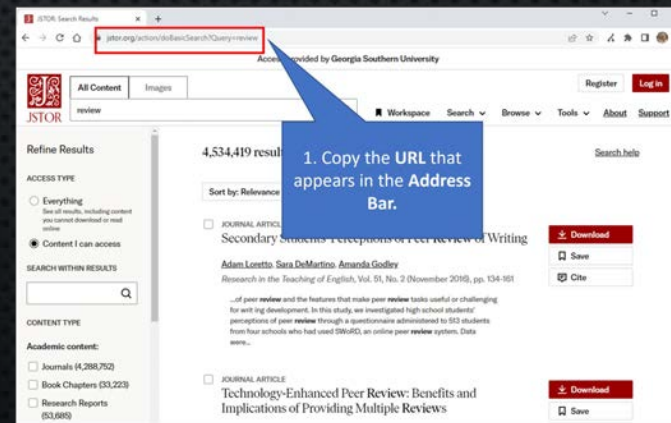
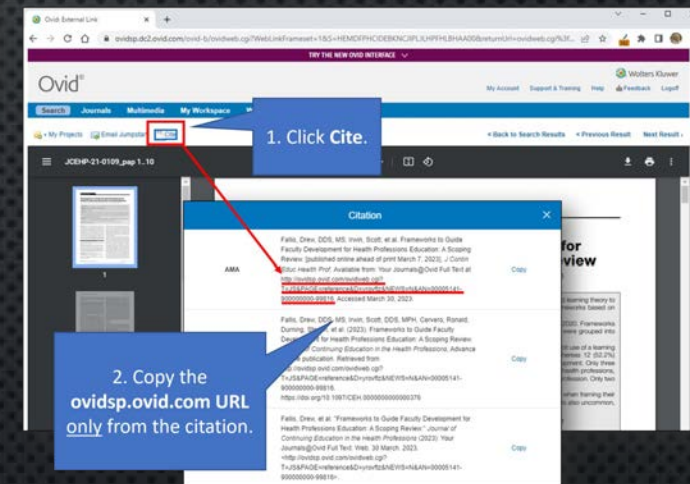
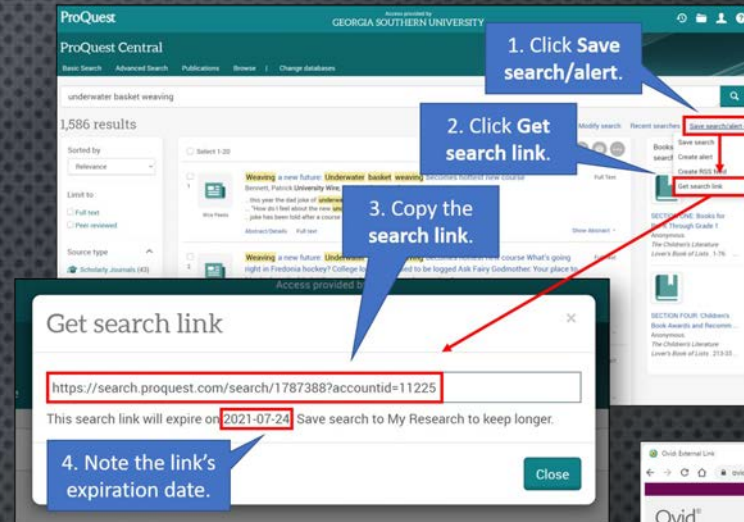
Use the **Register and Sign In** options to create a personal account and save your searches.

For more information, [Ask Us!](#)

We have ~175
articles for ~350
databases.

ODDITIES

- RESOURCES THAT REQUIRE PERSONAL ACCOUNTS TO CREATE SHAREABLE LINKS (E.G., PROQUEST PLATFORM, GRANT FORWARD).
- RESOURCES THAT REQUIRE TEASING RECORD URLs OUT OF CITATIONS (E.G., OVID).
- RESOURCES ON THE SAME PLATFORM THAT BEHAVE DIFFERENTLY DEPENDING ON THE MODULE (E.G., JSTOR VS. ARTSTOR @ JSTOR).



ACCESS

ARTICLES ARE ACCESSIBLE VIA THE DETAILED DESCRIPTION FOR EACH DATABASE.

LINKS TO THE DETAILED DESCRIPTIONS APPEAR IN EACH DATABASE ENTRY ON OUR [A-Z DATABASE LIST](#).

DETAILED DESCRIPTIONS ARE HOUSED ON OUR [LIBRARIES FAQ](#).

THE GUIDE IS ALSO AVAILABLE VIA OUR PUBLIC-FACING [LIBGUIDES MENU](#).

The screenshot shows the Georgia Southern University Libraries website. At the top, the university logo and name are displayed. Below the navigation bar, the page title is "University Libraries / FAQs" and the specific topic is "Q. Academic Search Complete". A search bar is present with the placeholder text "Type your question" and a "Search" button. To the right of the search bar, there are filters for "Browse: All Groups Topics".

The main content area is titled "Answered By: eTeam Support" and includes a date of "Feb 15, 2023" and a view count of "370". The text describes the "Academic Search Complete" database, noting it contains over 6,100 full-text periodicals and 5,100 peer-reviewed journals. It also mentions that the database is updated daily and features PDF content going back to 1887. A link is provided to "see here" for more information.

A red box highlights a "Friendly URL" section with the text: "Instructions for creating permalinks (for Folio, syllabuses, etc.)". Below this, there are "Additional Resources" including "EBSCOhost tutorials" and a link to "Ask Us!".

At the bottom of the main content area, there is a "Was this helpful?" section with thumbs up and down icons, both showing a count of 0. To the right of this are icons for printing, Twitter, Facebook, and an "Edit FAQ" link.

On the right side of the page, there is a "Contact Us" section. It includes a "Can't find the answer?" prompt with an "Ask a Question!" button. Below this, it lists "Online Chat Hours 9am – 4pm" and an "Ask-a-Librarian" section. The "Ask-a-Librarian" section has fields for "Your Name (optional)", "Your Current Location:" (with a dropdown menu), and "Your Question*" (with a text area). A "Start Chat" button is located at the bottom of this section.

At the very bottom of the "Contact Us" section, it says "Contact your [Library Liaison](#)" and "Libraries [Contact Us](#) page".

NAVIGATION

BECAUSE THE LIST OF DATABASES IS LONG (AS WELL AS WE DON'T MAINTAIN A UNIQUE TAB FOR EACH DATABASE), WE DIDN'T WANT TO USE STANDARD NAVIGATION.

INSTEAD, WE CREATED A FOUR-COLUMN MENU THAT APPEARS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE AND ALLOWS USERS TO KEYWORD SEARCH THE LIST.

SIMILARLY, WE USE A TRUNCATED MENU ON INDIVIDUAL TABS THAT IS ALSO KEYWORD SEARCHABLE.

GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

University Libraries / Library Guides / Linking to Library Resources / Home Chat

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Search for a database

ABI/INFORM Collection (Pro...	Academic Search Complete ...	Accounting Research Manag...	Accounting, Tax & Banking C...
ACM Digital Library (Associa...	ACS Publications (American ...	Advanced Placement Source...	Advanced Technologies & Ae...
African American Biographic...	AGRICOLA (EBSCOhost)	Agricultural & Environmental ...	Agriculture Science Databas...
Alt HealthWatch (EBSCOhost)	American Antiquarian Societ...	American Antiquarian Societ...	American Antiquarian Societ...
American Antiquarian Societ...	American Antiquarian Societ...	American National Biography...	American Race Relations: Gl...
Ancestry Library Edition	AnthroSource	Arts & Humanities Database ...	Arts and Humanities Citation ...
Artstor @ JSTOR	Artstor Digital Library	ArXiv.org	ASCE Library
Asian & European Business ...	ASM Handbooks Online	ASTM Standards in Building ...	ATLA Historical Monographs ...

Linking to Library Resources

Create shareable links to library databases and resources.

Home

Database Friendly URLs

Journals & Holdings

Search for a database

Link to a Resource

Accounting Research Manager 2.0 does not support linking directly to a specific resource.

For more information, [Ask Us!](#)

Link to a Result List

Accounting Research Manager 2.0 does not support linking directly to a result list.

For more information, [Ask Us!](#)

See Justin Barnett's recent Springshare Lounge post:
<https://lounge.springshare.com/discussion/1511/sharing-our-filterable-page-list-hidden-navigation/p1?new=1>

MAINTENANCE

- CREATING THE GUIDE WAS TIME-CONSUMING BUT MAINTAINING IT SHOULD BE EASIER. MOST UPDATES CAN BE HANDLED TRANSACTIONALLY AS DATABASES ARE UPDATED OR ISSUES ARISE.
- CREATING, UPDATING, AND DELETING ARTICLES IS NOW WRITTEN INTO OUR MAINTENANCE WORKFLOWS FOR DATABASE ASSETS.
- ARTICLES WILL NEED TO BE AUDITED, LIKELY ON A BIENNIAL SCHEDULE (± 7 ARTICLES PER MONTH).

NEXT STEPS

PROMOTION & TRAINING WITH
LIBRARY FACULTY & STAFF

PROMOTION TO TEACHING FACULTY

FURTHER CONSOLIDATE ARTICLES

REDIRECT DOIs?

QUESTIONS?



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