



3-21-2013

## Books Beyond the Library Walls

Maria A. Perez-Stable

Western Michigan University, maria.perez-stable@wmich.edu

Follow this and additional works at: [https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/digital\\_research\\_skills](https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/digital_research_skills)



Part of the Library and Information Science Commons

---

### WMU ScholarWorks Citation


Perez-Stable, Maria A., "Books Beyond the Library Walls" (2013). *Advancing Your Research Skills for the Digital Age*. 2.

[https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/digital\\_research\\_skills/2](https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/digital_research_skills/2)

This Handout is brought to you for free and open access by the Library Workshops at ScholarWorks at WMU. It has been accepted for inclusion in *Advancing Your Research Skills for the Digital Age* by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at WMU. For more information, please contact [wmu-scholarworks@wmich.edu](mailto:wmu-scholarworks@wmich.edu).



### Session 5: Books Beyond the Library Walls

- **Books+** (WMU's online catalog)
  - New catalog—best place to do topic searching
  - Classic catalog—**Advanced Search**—excellent for finding titles and/or authors
  - **Click on Books Beyond WMU link under Books+**
- **MeLCat** ([www.mel.org](http://www.mel.org); statewide catalog of over 400 libraries across the state—college, public, school, and special libraries)
  - In addition to books there are music CDs, DVDs, books on tape, etc.
  - Patron-initiated interlibrary loan—**you** put in the request; will need to have your WIN number handy
  - Advantage is items may come quicker than regular Interlibrary Loan
  - Books take about a week to come
  - Can sometimes explore specialized holdings, for example researching some local events will turn up in local libraries
  - Circulation period is normally 3 weeks with one possible renewal
- **WorldCat**—**ALL graduate students MUST search this!**
  - Find WorldCat on the Libraries' home page by clicking on the  button the Libraries' home page, and then on the "W"
  - Comprehensive catalog of books and other materials in 72,000 libraries around the world
  - Use it to discover what is "out there" in the world on your topic
  - Contains more than 289 *million* records
  - Items located through WorldCat may be requested through Interlibrary Loan if WMU does not own
- **Interlibrary Loan** (Resource Sharing)
  - If you have not already done so, REGISTER yourself to establish your free account at <http://www.wmich.edu/library/services/loan> **OVER ►**

- Books still come via U.S. mail—usually takes 1-2 weeks
- **So, what about E-books?** (Click on “Books beyond WMU” under Books+)
  - In **Books+**; you can limit search JUST to e-books; WMU provides access to nearly a quarter of a *million* e-books
  - WMU subscribes to a number of e-book packages; see all options at <http://libguides.wmich.edu/ebooks>
  - Be sure to click on the **Using e-books tab** to get more information on working with them
  - Some vendors allow us to download the books, others must be read online
  - Have 4 online databases that contain online **reference e-books**; <http://libguides.wmich.edu/general>; click on the **Dictionaries & Encyclopedias** tab to get to these
- **Google Books** (<http://books.google.com/>)
  - If the book is out of copyright (published before 1923) , or the publisher has given Google permission, you'll be able to see a preview of the book, and in some cases the entire text
  - If book is in the public domain (published prior to 1923), you can download a PDF copy
- **HathiTrust Digital Library** (<http://www.hathitrust.org/>)
  - A collaborative repository of over 10 million volumes, 2.5 million in the public domain and fully accessible (public domain = published *before* 1923)
  - WMU is not a member—we have access to *some* but not all of the full-text materials in HathiTrust
  - Digitized content from research libraries, the Google Books project and the Internet Archive initiative are included
  - All public domain titles not digitized by Google and in the HathiTrust Digital Library are available for full PDF download
- **Questions?**