

## Database Guide

# Early English Books Online

### What is Early English Books Online?

*Early English Books Online* [EEBO] is a comprehensive online collection of the fulltext (including illustrations) of all books, pamphlets and broadsides published in the English language in any country from earliest times through 1700. This includes books on philosophy, religion, science, politics, exploration, poetry, prose and drama. The database currently offers access to over 120,000 works listed in *Pollard & Redgrave's Short-Title Catalogue* (1475-1640), *Wing's Short-Title Catalogue* (1641-1700), and their revised editions, as well as the *Thomason Tracts* (1640-1661) collection. The print versions of these catalogs are available in the Microforms area.

### How to Access Early English Books Online

From the University Library System home page ([www.library.pitt.edu](http://www.library.pitt.edu)), select **Databases A-Z** from the red **Find Articles and More** menu. Choose **E** from the index near the top of the page and then choose the **Early English Books Online** link. On the page describing the database, click on **CONNECT to the database.**

### How to Search Early English Books Online

**Basic Searching:** The database's **Basic Search** function allows searches by Author, Title, Subject, or Keyword (or Bibliographic Number from the above mentioned catalogs). The basic search function may also be limited to a particular date or date range. Neither the Basic, nor the Advanced Search Function is case sensitive. If you enter more than one search term, the terms are combined using **OR**. You can use the **AND** operator to search for a combination of words such as **war AND peace**.

The screenshot shows the 'Basic Search' interface. At the top, there are navigation links: HOME, SEARCH, BROWSE, MARKED LIST, SEARCH HISTORY, and HELP. The main search area contains a text input field for 'KEYWORD(s):' with a 'select from a list' link. Below this, it states 'Search 4,996 titles available as keyed full text and 106,629 titles available as citations'. There are four more search fields: 'AUTHOR KEYWORD(s):' (with examples like 'Kee, John; Church of England'), 'TITLE KEYWORD(s):' (with examples like 'Hamlet; jealous\* or realies\*'), 'SUBJECT KEYWORD(s):' (with examples like 'Saints; Ireland; History'), and 'BIBLIOGRAPHIC NUMBER:' (with examples like 'STC and 22226; S.140[1]D'). A 'LIMIT BY DATE:' section has 'From:' and 'To:' fields with '1473' and '1980' respectively, and a 'Date Help' link. There are 'Search' buttons on the right side and a 'Clear Search' link at the bottom right.

**Advanced Searching:** The database's **Advanced Search** function allows searching within a greater selection of index fields, including: Author, Bibliographic Number, Imprint, Language, and Source Library, among others. The **Illustration Type** field allows for the pinpointing of maps, portraits, coats of arms, music and illustrations. See the *Early English Books Advanced Search Help* page for more detailed instructions.

**Search Hints:** Many words in the title field are written using Early English spelling, e.g. "perswasion" for "persuasion", etc. If you're unsure of the spelling of a word, consider trying variant spellings or truncation using "?" — e. g. "authenti?" retrieves "authentic" as well as "authentick."

## Viewing Search Results

To view a particular record, click on one of the icons to the left of the record (a key to the icons is below). *All of the options are not necessarily available for all citations.*



*Note: The majority of full text pages are very large, therefore clicking on the Full Text icon of a record that exceeds 200kb in size will take you to a warning page which will offer you the choice of either viewing the entire document in full text or, using the Table of Contents to find a section the document.*

## Print, Download or Email Results

You may print a single document image at a time by using the print functionality in your browser. However, for optimum print quality download the image in PDF format before printing. To print, e-mail, or download citations, or to print or download the Full Text document, **mark** the records you wish to print or download by placing a check in the box to the far left of the record in the Search Results screen. Next, click on the **Marked List** button near the top of the screen to display your marked records:



The screenshot shows the 'Marked List' interface. At the top, there are navigation links: HOME, SEARCH, BROWSE, MARKED LIST (selected), SEARCH HISTORY, and HELP. Below the navigation, there are instructions: 'Remove individual records from the list by clicking the [checkbox] (image(s)). Or, click [checkbox] remove all to remove all records from the list.' To the right of these instructions are buttons for 'Print', 'Email', and 'Download'. Below this is a summary: 'This list contains all the items you marked during this session. The citations you marked are listed, along with your options for printing or downloading the citations. You may also download marked images. The image files are downloadable in PDF format using the page range selected. For more information, see the help pages.' The main list contains one entry: '1. Abbot, George, A briefe description of the whole world'. Below the title are details: 'Imprint: London : Printed for Margaret Sheares ... and John Playfere ...', 'Bib Name / Number: Wing / A62', 'No. pages: [2], 340 p.', 'Copy from: Bodleian Library', and 'Download PDF (total document size: 10MB)'. There is a 'Notes:' section with a text area and a 'save notes' button. Two callout boxes are present: one on the left pointing to the 'Download PDF' button with the text 'Click here to download the Entire Document in PDF format.', and one on the right pointing to the 'Print', 'Email', and 'Download' buttons with the text 'Click here to Print, Email or Download Citations Only.'

*Note: PDF files may be in excess of 5MB. If you have a slow Internet connection, download times may be extended.*

All titles in the EEBO database are also on microfilm (Call Number range AC A1) and have indexes at call number Z2002 E22. Both are in the Microforms Collection (Ground floor, Hillman Library).