

PittCat Advanced Search

Transcript

[Voice over]

Welcome to PittCat! In this video, you will learn about the advanced search features of PittCat.

When accessing PittCat, remember to log in using your Pitt username and password to get the most complete search results, pin selected results, and view search history in your account.

Click Sign in in the upper right-hand corner and select Pitt account.

After authenticating, you'll be signed in and ready to search. One of the benefits of doing an advanced search is that it allows you to create complex searches, giving you more targeted results.

Start by clicking the advanced search link to the side of the search box.

[Search "social justice"]

When searching a phrase, put it in quotation marks to be sure that PittCat searches for these words together in that exact order.

Below the search box you'll see the total number of results as well as the list of results. Larger numbers of results may indicate that you should narrow down the search by adding more keywords. You are not limited to the number of keywords you use as you can add additional search boxes by clicking Add a New Line.

In the results list you'll find some brief information about each item. Click the title to view the detailed record, which provides a link to the full text, citation information, abstract information, and even related readings.

To return to the results list, click the X on the left-hand side.

"Virtual browse" is another really interesting feature for researchers. This feature works for books in our collection. Click on items "held by library" and select the book that is most relevant to your topic. In the detailed record, scroll to the bottom to find the Virtual Browse feature. Virtual Browse works by looking at the item's call number and finding similar items that have similar call numbers. So it's as though you're browsing a physical shelf.

If you want to keep track of items that you really like, you can use the pin feature. Click the pin on items you want to save. Next to your account name, you'll see the same pin icon which opens your favorites folder.

You should now be familiar with advanced search options in PittCat.

If you have any questions about PittCat, don't hesitate to AskUs!