

Music 394 – World Cultures in Music

Sources & Searching Techniques

A. *Searching for Books & Recordings.*

You can find **records** for books and recordings on your topic in three databases:

WestCat: items in WIU Libraries

IShare: items in Illinois Academic Libraries

WorldCat: items in libraries world-wide

Begin at the library's homepage (www.wiu.edu/library/).

(This is your gateway to the resources and information you will need to complete your assignment successfully.)

Searching **WestCat**

*[Please note that in this tutorial, the arrow heads (< >) indicate what words to type in the search box. Only type the words, do **not** type the symbols (< >).]*

The *Search by* box presents a number of options: *Any Word Anywhere* (default), *Title*, *Author*, *Subject*, and some other choices.

We will begin with a search by **Title**.

Click on *Title* in the *Search by* box. To search for the title “The virgin directory of world music” enter <virgin directory of world music> in the *Search for* box.

What comes up on the screen is a **bibliographic record** for that particular item – a book that the Music Library has in its collection. The record describes the item in great detail: *Author*, *Title*, *Physical Description*, *Contents*, etc.

*[The description helps confirm that this is the item you are looking for. Scroll on down to the bottom of the screen. Here is important information to tell you where the item is located and how to find it. The **Location** indicates it is kept in the Music Stacks section of the Music Library in Sallee Hall. More specifically, the **Call Number** (a complicated-looking combination of letters and numbers) is the library's way of providing a unique place (address) for it in the collection so that you can find it!]*

Do a title search for <first summer>. This record is for a CD, described as “1 sound disc : digital ; 4 ¾ in.”

The first part of the Call Number also gives an indication of the type of material. Here are a few of the options:

MCD = Music CD
MD = Music LP
M = Music score
ML = A book about music
MT = A book about music instruction or theory

And so on.

Thus, ML410 .P7844 S4 is the Call Number for a book about the composer Cole Porter, (the .P7844 is code for “Porter”, and the S4 represents the author’s name “Schwartz”).

Tips for searching the **Any Word Anywhere** option

Entering your search terms may yield useful results due to the **relevancy** indicator, but this option works best when you use **operators**. To understand how these work, read through carefully the *Any Word Anywhere* box in the Search Examples on the screen just below the shaded search area we have been using.

Select the *Any Word Anywhere* option in the *Search by* box and compare results from the following 3 searches:

- i. <world music>
- ii. <+world +music>
- iii. <“world music”>

Can you explain why the results vary?

The operators have served to **narrow** (focus) your search.

Suppose you decide option iii is the most appropriate, but you only want a listing of music recordings, not scores or books. Click the down arrow on the *Quick Limit* box and select *Music Recordings* from the pop-up menu. Then type <“world music”> in the *Search for* box. Note that the **Quick Limit** menu also enables you to search just for Books, Music Scores, or Films/Videos (among other options), which is particularly helpful for compiling your quota of print and recorded items.

Another useful operator is the **truncation** symbol. Suppose you are looking for items related to the music of the Mayas, the results of a search for <maya?> will include terms such as:

Maya
Maya(s)
Maya(n)
Maya(ns)

The truncation symbol enables you to **broaden** your search to include variant spellings and plurals.

However, this search also brings up a lot of irrelevant material associated, for instance, with musicians with the surname Mayall. You can eliminate these by using the not (!) symbol.

Compare the results of these two searches:

- (i) +maya? +music
- (ii) +maya? +music !mayal?

Be sure you understand why the results differ!

[Note to music majors: This is particularly useful for musicians. The results of a search for <Symphon?> will include terms such as:

Symphony	(singular)
Symphonies	(plural)
Symphonie	(French, German)
Symphonien	(German, plural)
Symphonic	(adjective), etc.

Other common examples would be <sonat?>, to include Sonata, Sonatas, Sonates, Sonaten, etc., and <concert?> to cover concert, concerts, Concerto, Concertos, Concerti, etc.]

Using the **Subject** search option

Use this option to search for books **about** persons, things (objects, concepts, topics), and places.

Click on the subject search option in the *Search by* box.

Do the following searches:

- i. <marley bob>

Clicking the search button takes you into the subject index. If your search term is successful it will appear at the top of the list. Click on the hot link in Line 1 and browse the results. The results list shows the number of books we have ABOUT Bob Marley.

- ii. <folk music--mexico>
- iii. <rock and roll music>

This search result is disappointing – 0 hits! Don't despair! Click on the *See Also* button on the left-hand side. This screen tells you to use "Rock music" to search this topic. This is an example of the use of **Controlled Vocabulary**. Because *terms* and *names* can be so varied, decisions have to be made about which ones to use. The Library of Congress in Washington D.C. makes the decisions!

Subject Headings

The following is a selected list of “official” subject terms (Library of Congress Subject Headings) that may be helpful for your assignment.

For most of these topics you can add a geographical location, see examples in the list.

Afrobeat
Celtic Music
Dance for Children
Drummers (musicians)
Ethnomusicology
Folk Dance Music
Folk Music + country (e.g. Folk music—Iraq)
Folk Music Groups
Folk Musicians
Folk Singers
Folk Songs + country or ethnicity (e.g. Folk songs, Greek; Folk songs, Kikuyu)
Funk (Music)
Hip-hop
Musical Instruments + country (e.g. Musical instruments—Ireland)
Musicians
Musicians—Developing Countries
National Music
Popular Music
Popular Music + country (e.g. Popular music—Paraguay)
Popular Music + decade (e.g. Popular music—2001-2010)
Popular Music—Developing Countries
Rap (Music) + country
Rhythm and Blues Music
Salsa (Music)
Singing Games
Songs
World Beat
World Music

For individual country’s music: e.g. Music—Vietnam—History and Criticism

For ethnic groups: e.g. Indians of Mexico—music

Broadening the scope – *I-Share*

<Music—Surinam>

This search returns a negative result. This means WIU Libraries do not have any materials on this topic. Click on the highlighted [Repeat search in the I-Share catalog?](#) By accessing the I-Share catalog, the computer is able to show that other libraries in Illinois do have materials on this topic. You can borrow these materials (when available) through **Interlibrary Loan**

Broadening the scope still further – WorldCat

Notice how the subject headings listed on any record are hot links. By clicking on one of these you will find other items on the same, or similar, topic.

Repeat the first search for the book: “The Virgin Directory of World Music” in WorldCat. Click on the descriptor “World Music—History and criticism.” The results give 107 items on this topic divided into various media: books, recordings, videos, etc.

B. Searching for Articles in Periodicals and Magazines.

Searching for articles on your topic may result in finding full-text articles or citations to articles in print format. WIU Libraries provides access to many databases with access to both categories. For this particular assignment, either format will work. You will find articles on your topic in both specialized and general databases. The following is a list of those which may prove the most helpful:

Music:

- Grove Music Online
- IIMP (International Index to Music Periodicals)

Sociology/Anthropology

- Sociological Abstracts

History

- Historical Abstracts

General Databases

- Infotrac
- Academic Search Premier
- WilsonSelect Plus
- Periodical Abstracts

Note that these databases are provided by different companies and have different interfaces, but they all use similar searching techniques.

Sample Search in IIMP for sources on the topic of “Fusion in World Music.”

Quick Search

- i.* Enter : <Fusion world music> in the Quick Search box.

This results in an unmanageable result (nearly 3,000 hits).

Record #1 gives an example of a **brief citation** (enough information to identify the article and where it can be found). Notice the options *Full Text/Full Text PDF*.

- ii.* <Fusion “world music”>

Use of the quotation marks treats these words as a phrase. Note the difference between items #1 and #2. The latter is an index entry; full text is not available online. Click on the title of #1 to get to the full citation (which includes the **abstract**). Scroll down and notice the subject headings.

iii. <“Global fusion”>

Notice hit #2 is a review. Reviews may not be of much use in researching for a substantial paper.

Advanced Search (*Search Articles* bar in the LH column)

iv. <“Global fusion”>

Exclude reviews and limit to peer-reviewed articles

v. <fusion “world music”>

Exclude reviews and limit to peer-reviewed articles
Filter reviews to “history”

Using other databases

Try search v. <fusion “world music”> in the Sociological Abstracts database, for example