How to Find Articles Using the Research Databases at Hofstra

A database is an electronic collection of articles and other materials in a particular subject area (such as History or Education)

- To find articles in the research databases begin by logging in the Hofstra portal at https://my.hofstra.edu/cp/home/displaylogin.
- After you login click the library tab on the left side of the screen.
- The library home page will open. Under the heading “Finding Information” click on “Research Databases”
- A page will open with a list of subjects. Select the subject most closely related to either your topic or the course that you are enrolled in. When you are unsure select “Scholarly/Multidisciplinary”.
- Within each subject there are databases to help you find articles. There are also databases to help you find other types of items such as polls, statistics, images and other types of documents. Academic Search Premier is a good example of a multidisciplinary database that contains peer-reviewed articles.
- View Figure 1 below to see some elements of constructing a search in a database such as Academic Search Premier. The topic in the example uses the term “Kyoto Protocol” (the summit on climate change). This is a very broad topic, so it is helpful to narrow it down by adding another search term. In this example I used the “United States”.
The Results

After you click “search” you will get a results list. If there are too many results (more than 100) you may enter another search term to narrow your search further. To see the abstract, which is a description of the article, you can click on the title of the item that interests you.

Finding the full text of the Article

To get the actual article you can click on the PDF or HTML icon. If neither of these icons is present then you may click on the Find it @ Hofstra icon. This will take you to “Journal Finder”, which will search for the article in other databases to see if Hofstra has access. If there is access, “Journal Finder” will look like Figure 2. Click on the link titled “Article” to access the full text.
Figure 2: “Journal Finder” finds the full text

What to do if there is no full text

If there is no full text available you will find a link to “interlibrary loan” and from there you may request that the article be borrowed from another library and emailed to you. When you click the link to “interlibrary loan” you may either login or create an account (click “First Time Users” to create an account).

If the article is available in print you may request that the library photocopy the article for you and send it to you via email. The link to that service is here
https://www.hofstra.edu/Library/libaxn/libaxn_form_alead.html