Finding Sources

The library is here to help you get the items you need. Use this chart to help you figure out where you can get items for your research such as articles, books and media. You can use items and services from either **Cabell Library** on the Monroe Park Campus, or the **Tompkins-McCaw Library** on the MCV Campus.

Start Here

Do you have a citation for a specific item?

No → No. You have many options!

- I need some tips getting started. → Start Your Research Guide: guides.library.vcu.edu/research
- I want to start searching → Use the search box on the VCU Libraries homepage: library.vcu.edu.
- I need information specific to my field, or on a specific topic. → Explore a Subject Guide: guides.library.vcu.edu
- I'm not sure what to do! → Contact a librarian: library.vcu.edu/askus

Yes → Use the citation linker OR use the VCU Libraries Search

- VCU Libraries Search → Use the VCU Libraries Search to locate the item. Watch the video below to see how.

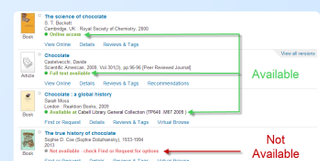
youtu.be/scm4_TIqj2U

Did you find the item?

- No → Use WorldCat to find the item in another library.

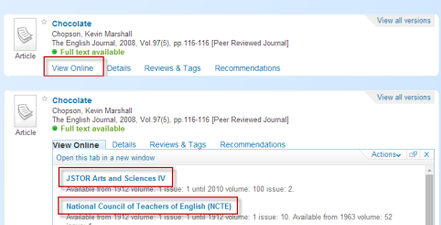
youtu.be/cBlfx99LTBY

- Yes → Is it available?



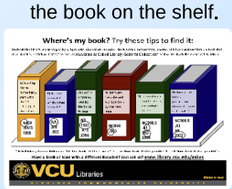
tinyurl.com/mrno99o

- I'm not sure → Click "View Online," then one of the blue links that appear below the tab. If you have trouble, visit library.vcu.edu/research/askus/



tinyurl.com/pn59yhq

- Available → Is it available online or at one of the VCU Libraries?
  - Online → Click "View Online," then one of the blue links that appear below the tab. If you have trouble, visit library.vcu.edu/research/askus/
  - Available at... → Check the location. If the location has "Cabell" or "Tompkins-McCaw" listed anywhere, you can go to that library and find the book on the shelf, or ask for help at the service desk.*
    - My item is in storage, or I need the item sent to the other library. → Submit a request for the item by placing a hold.
    - Available at "Cabell Library..."or "Tompkins McCaw Library..." → Use this guide to help you find the book on the shelf.



tinyurl.com/qbtgd83

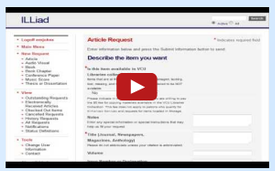
    - I can't find it! → Send us a text message at 804-435-5420 or visit a service desk for help.
    - I found it! → Bring it to the service desk with your VCU ID card to check it out.

*There are some cases where the library will retrieve items for you and hold them at the library, or deliver them to your home or office. See library.vcu.edu/services/borrowing/retrieval/ for more information.

- Not available → Tell the library that you want the material when it is available by placing a request (AKA "hold"). OR Request it from a non-VCU library
  - Place a hold → Submit a request for the item by placing a hold.

youtu.be/5F_1VLrgkUY

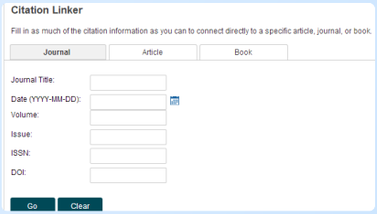
  - Request it from a non-VCU library → Request it from another library



youtu.be/dnMI3EPcIKY

Need help? View our Guide on Borrowing Materials from other Libraries: guides.library.vcu.edu/borrow

- VCU Libraries Search → This tool lets you enter in a citation or parts of a citation to find a specific item.
  1. Go to library.vcu.edu
  2. Click on Journal Finder
  3. Fill in as much information as you can about the item, and click "Go."



Find it? tinyurl.com/jwlfcx7

- Yes → Use this guide to help you find the book on the shelf.
- No → Request it from another library