Article Linker

This is a short introduction on how to find articles using article linker.

What is article linker? Basically Article Linker is a tool that helps retrieve full text articles online. And, article linker works with the different databases available through the library’s homepage.

Here’s how it works. This is a list of search results from one of the library’s article databases – Academic Search Premier.

Depending on the database you use, search results often include a mix of full text articles, such as this first result, and results that are not full text but include article linker. So, I can easily read the entire text of this first article, which is a PDF. But, I’m more interested in the next article, so I click on Article Linker.

A second window opens. I select my affiliation, in this case the University of Southern Maine.

Article Linker follows a 3-step process. In the first step, Article Linker checks to see if the full text is available online. In this example, the article is available online. There are 2 locations and I can pick from any of these by clicking on the word “article”.

A third window should open up, which should lead me to the full text. The look of this third screen will vary depending on where the article is coming from. In this case, this looks again like only a summary. But over here, there is a link to full text.

Article linker doesn’t always find an online version of the article full text. For example, let’s say I’m interested in article seven.

I’ll repeat the process. Click on my affiliation. In this example, step 1 found no online versions of the article. So, I go on to Step 2. Step 2 searches for a print version of the article. Less convenient, but I can still access the article if I want to. Before doing that, make a note of the date, volume, and issue number (if it’s available) of the article you’re looking for.

Here are 2 options, a journal title search and a journal ISSN search. For more precise searching I suggest using the Journal ISSN search.

Now, I click on Journal ISSN and get 2 results. One is the print version designated Serials. The 2nd is the online version designated E-Serial. I already know that an
online version of the article is not available so I’m going to go to the print version directly. I click once on the print journal title. Here I see which library carries the journal as well as what dates are carried. It’s at Portland, but not for the years I need. So I need to return to the Article Linker results page for Step 3.

Step 3 involves ordering the article from another library. Click on the Submit an Interlibrary Loan request link. If you don’t have an account, click on first time users and follow the instructions. Users with an account would login. Information about the article is automatically filled in on the online form - a nice timesaving feature. Be sure to fill in Max Cost and Campus. You will be notified by email when the article arrives. Delivery usually takes less than a week.

That’s a brief introduction on how to use Article Linker. If you have questions, feel free to contact the library’s reference department by phone, email, online chat, or just stop by the library.

Based on the Article Linker script from the University of Maine. Revised 4-13-10.