



Earth Science

A Library Research Guide

Wilson Library, Bethany University, Library Research Guide

Use this guide as a starting point in your search for information in the field of earth science.
Ask at the reference desk for help in finding or using any of the items listed below.

Encyclopedia and Dictionaries



Encyclopedias and dictionaries are a good place to start when you know little about a topic, when you need an overview of a subject, or when you want a quick summary of basic information.

Encyclopedia articles are often followed by carefully selected bibliographies or lists of references to other works. The following are in the stacks of Wilson Library.

Facts on File dictionary of earth science Ref QE 5 F318 2000
Van Nostrand's Scientific Encyclopedia Ref Q 121 V3
McGraw-Hill dictionary of science and technology Ref HQ 121 M3 2002



Library of Congress Subject Headings

Wilson Library uses the "Library of Congress Subject Headings" (large red books at the Reference Desk) to catalog material. These subject headings are slow to change but are extremely useful in locating books and articles. Subject headings attempt to gather like information under one descriptor. Some suggested subject headings for earth science are:

- ❖ Earth Sciences
- ❖ Geology
- ❖ Oceanography
- ❖ Meteorology
- ❖ Environmental Sciences
- ❖ Volcanoes
- ❖ Earthquakes
- ❖ Tsunamis

When you are unable to identify an exact heading, a keyword search may be more effective. Wilson Library's online catalog, Spectrum, supports keyword as well as title and subject searches.

Find Books, DVD's and CD's

To locate books at the Wilson Library you must use the computer. Open the web browser and in the address field type: <http://www.bethany.edu/academicsb/library.htm>. Click on Online Catalog. All materials in the library are accessible via the web. Ask any Reference person if you need assistance in locating material.



Find Journal/Magazine Articles

Wilson Library subscribes to an online database, *EBSCOhost*, which contains citations, abstracts and full text articles beginning in approximately 1990. Combining the use of paper indexes plus *EBSCOhost* will provide the broadest search for any topic. Advanced searching allows a patron to search a single journal. Hardcopy indexes are located on the index table. *Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature* and the *Social Sciences Index* will help you fine information on earth science.

SUGGESTED JOURNALS

California Wild
Sierra
National Geographic
Astronomy
American Scientist
Geographical Review
Science
Science News
Scientific American



Internet Resources

US Geological Survey

www.usgs.gov

National Geographic: Forces of Nature

www.nationalgeographic.com/Forces_of_Nature

Tsunami Information

www.geophys.Washington.edu/tsunami

National Earthquake Information Center (NEIC)

neic.usgs.gov

The suggestions noted above will assist the research process. There are many other resources available. If you have any difficulties please contact the reference personnel.

Wilson Library, Bethany College
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