

## **VIC171Y: Methodology, Theory & Practice in the Natural Sciences**

### **Conducting Research in the Philosophy of Science**

#### **[The Oxford Dictionary of Philosophy](#)**

An online dictionary that you can consult for concise, authoritative definitions of unfamiliar names and terms in the field of philosophy.

#### **[The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy](#)**

A peer-reviewed online encyclopedia including nearly all areas of philosophy. It is a great place to begin your research and develop background knowledge of a particular philosopher or philosophical position.

Each entry has an extensive bibliography with recommended resources for further reading and potential sources for your essay.

#### **[Oxford Bibliographies: Philosophy](#)**

A *bibliography* is a list of the books of an author or publisher, or on a specific subject. *Oxford Bibliographies*, compiled by scholars and librarians, contain extensive lists of annotated titles on many topics within the study of the philosophy of science. It is a great way to find authoritative sources on your topic.

Each subject contains an extensive introduction (which provides an overview of the topic) as well as a list of annotated titles of books, arranged by subtopics. Scroll down to a section entitled “Philosophy of Science” to see the list of available bibliographies for this course.

#### **[LibrarySearch](#)**

A single integrated search platform for books, articles, periodicals, primary sources, and other materials.

It provides links to full texts of ebooks, journal articles, and book reviews (which can help you assess the relevance and quality of a particular title to the topic of your research).

#### **[Philosopher’s Index](#)**

The most current and comprehensive bibliography of scholarly research in philosophy. It is a great place to search for book chapters and articles when doing more in-depth research.

You can use it to find books and articles that have been written on a specific topic, or to see all the work done by a particular author.

#### **[Ulrichsweb](#)**

A helpful periodical directory that can be used to determine whether a particular journal is scholarly and/or peer-reviewed.

### **Additional Research Resources**

#### **[The Oxford Handbook of Philosophy of Science](#)**

A reference source containing broad overviews of the main lines of research and the state of established knowledge in six principal areas of the discipline, including physical sciences, as well as general philosophy of science

It also covers the traditional topics in the philosophy of science, such as causation, probability, models,

ethics and values, and explanation, in addition to new areas of research in the discipline.

### **Research Resources for Philosophy**

Other major online resources in the field of philosophy (such as journal databases) are listed on the University of Toronto Libraries (UTL) website.

## **APA Citation & Style Guides**

APA (American Psychological Association):

- online: [APA Formatting and Style Guide](#), Purdue University
- print: *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 7th edition, [BF76.7 .P83 2020](#).

## **Research Advice**

### Online Reference Service

Research support service is available via the University of Toronto Libraries' virtual reference service, [Ask a Librarian](#). It is open in the evenings and weekends.

### Email Inquiries

Basic questions related to navigating the libraries (such as locating a particular book title in the catalogue) can be sent via email (**please keep your message brief**).

Please use your @mail.utoronto.ca account, identifying the course (VIC171Y) in the subject line.

We aim to respond to messages in a timely manner, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 9:00 am and 5:00 pm. Please note we do not monitor our email accounts in the evenings, weekends, or on holidays..

### Research Consultation Service

[Agatha Barc and Colin Deinhardt](#) (Reader Services and Instruction Librarians) are available to meet either in-person or online to provide advice related to locating relevant sources on your chosen topic.

Consultations take place Monday to Friday, between 9:30 am and 4:00 pm. **Advanced notice** is required to request an appointment (excluding weekends and holidays).

It is important to request an appointment well **in advance of the due date and as soon as you begin working on your final essay**. Last-minute requests may not be accommodated.

Before requesting a consultation with the librarian, please complete the following:

- refine your assigned topic of research: you should have a clear sense of direction for how you will approach the subject of your presentation or essay; please don't simply email with the title of your topic when you request an appointment
- conduct preliminary research using the resources outlined in this guide, and
- locate at least one scholarly source (such as a book or journal article) that is relevant to your

chosen subject.

Please be prepared to discuss your findings with the librarian during your research consultation.

**created by:** Agatha Barc | **updated:** 2 September 2025

Last updated: April 24, 2025

**Source URL:** [https://library.vicu.utoronto.ca/research\\_resources/subject\\_course\\_guides/vic171](https://library.vicu.utoronto.ca/research_resources/subject_course_guides/vic171)