What are the Databases?

The databases are online indexes to the contents of journals, magazines, and newspapers. They are what you’d use to find articles on a particular topic.

- The Halle Library has access to nearly 150 different databases, many of which are subject-specific. However, there are many that are very useful for basic research needs. Most databases have coverage that goes back through the 80’s or 90’s. (This means that the issues of the magazines and journals indexed within the database date back through the 80’s or 90’s, up through the present.)

- The library subscribes to databases in the same way that people subscribe to a magazine. The difference is that many magazines, journals, and newspapers are indexed together in a database, and access to the information is in an online format, rather than print. Because of this, subscriptions to databases are much more costly than an individual subscription to a magazine or journal. Another important thing to remember is that although the databases are accessible through the Internet, the materials indexed within the databases are not websites.

- The databases are licensed by the Halle Library but anyone with a my.emich account is able to access them from any location—not just in the library. Also, many articles indexed in the databases are available in a full-text format, especially those found in the following general information databases:

Selected Databases for General Research
http://www.emich.edu/halle/remote.htm

- ArticleFirst: Indexes 12,500 journals in science, technology, medicine, social science, business, the humanities, and popular culture and allows browsing of contents pages. Coverage started: 1990.

- InfoTrac OneFile: Indexes 8,000 titles including more than 4,200 full-text titles from general interest magazines, refereed academic journals, business publications; technology periodicals, law, health care, and computers. Coverage started in 1980.

- LexisNexis Academic: Indexes a wide range of full-text news, business, legal and government information sources, as well as company, country, financial, market research and industry reports, biographical and medical and health information. This database is updated daily.


- Wilson Select Plus: Index to the contents of about 1300 periodicals, all with full text online. Coverage started in 1994.