



## Database Guide: ProQuest Dissertations & Theses

### Search Tips

- Use quotation marks (“”) to search for exact phrases.
- Two word queries such as **advertising campaigns** are searched as an exact phrase by default.
- Three word queries such as *fast food industry* are searched as words that need to appear in proximity to each other by default.
- Use special characters and operators to focus queries.

### Truncation and Wildcard Characters

- \* The asterisk (\*) is used as a right-handed truncation. It will find all forms of a word.  
*Example:* Searching for **econom\*** will find *economy*, *econom**ics***, *econom**ical***, *etc.*
- ? The question mark symbol (?) is used to replace any single character, either inside or the right end of the word.  
The question mark **cannot** be used to begin a word.  
*Example:* Searching for **wom?n** will find *woman* and *women*.

### Operators

Boolean, proximity and adjacency operators are used to broaden and narrow your search.

- AND** Finds **all** the words. When searching for keywords in Citation and Document Text **AND** finds documents in which the words occur in the same paragraph (within approximately 1,000 characters) or the words appear in any citation field. Use **W/DOC** in place of **AND** when searching for keywords within **Citation and Document Text** or **Document Text** to retrieve comprehensive results.  
*Example:* internet AND career
- AND NOT** Finds articles which have the first word, but **not** the second word.  
*Example:* internet AND NOT html
- OR** Finds **any** of the words.  
*Example:* internet OR intranet
- W/#** Finds documents where these words are **within** some number of words apart (either before or after). Use when searching for keywords within **Citation and Document Text** or **Document Text**.  
*Example:* computer W/3 careers
- W/PARA** Finds documents where words are **within the same paragraph** (within approximately 1,000 characters). Use when searching for keywords within **Document Text**.  
*Example:* business management W/PARA education
- W/DOC** Finds documents where all the words appear **within the document text**. Use **W/DOC** in place of **AND** when searching for keywords within **Citation and Document Text** or **Document Text** to



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retrieve comprehensive results.  
*Example:* internet W/DOC education

**NOT W/#** Finds documents where words appear but are **not within** some number of words apart (either before or after). Use when searching for keywords within **Citation and Document Text** or **Document Text**.  
*Example:* computer NOT W/2 careers

**PRE/#** Finds documents where the **first word appears some number of words before the second word**. Use when searching for keywords within **Citation and Document Text** or **Document Text**.  
*Example:* world pre/3 web

## Search Field Syntax

Abstract	Degree Awarded	Document Language	School Location
Advisor	Degree Date	Document Text	School Name / Code
Alternate Language Title	Degree Name	Document Title	Subject Name / Code
Author	Department	ISBN	Supplemental Files
Citation and abstract	Dissertation Volume / Issue (DVI)	Publication Order Number (UMI Order Number)	Year
Committee Members	Document ID		

### Abstract

Search article abstracts for your terms.

*Valid Forms:*

ABS  
AB  
ABSTRACT

*Example:*

ABS(telecommunication)

*Valid Forms:*

AD  
ADV  
ADVISER  
ADVISOR

*Examples:*

ADV(Fogel, Aaron)  
ADV(Abhijit)

### Alternate Language Title

Use the search field to look for dissertations by their alternate language title. For example, search for documents originally published in Spanish by searching for an alternate title in English.

*Valid Form:*

ALTITLE

### Advisor

Search for dissertations completed under the supervision of a specific academic adviser. If unsure of the spelling of a name, try using truncation. Adviser names are searchable in the following ways: adviser (first name), adviser (last name), or adviser (last name, first name)



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*Example:*

ALTITLE("The local area as a strategy for sustainable urban development")

### Author

Use to find documents written by a particular author.

*Valid Forms:*

AUTHOR

AU

*Examples:*

AUTHOR(Gertrude Huntington)

AU(Kinsley, Michael)

### Citation and Abstract

When you select Citation and Abstract from the drop-down menu, ProQuest searches the following fields:

- Author Name
- Abstract
- Title
- Subject Terms
- Keywords
- Advisor
- School
- Department
- School Location
- Source Type
- Publication number
- ISBN

### Committee Members

Lets you search for dissertations reviewed by specific committee members. If you're unsure of the spelling of a name, try using truncation. Committte member names are searchable in the following ways: CMT(first name), CMT(last name), or CMT(last name, first name)

*Valid Form:*

CMT

*Examples:*

CMT(Frazier, Michael)

CMT(Chang)

### Degree Awarded

Search on a thesis for a particular degree, such as Ed. D.

*Valid Form:*

DG

*Example:*

DG(M.A.)

### Degree Date

Search by the year in which the degree was awarded by the school. You can search degree date by a range of years or use "greater than" or "less than" to find dates before or after a specific date.

Note that your subscription may limit the range of dates available.

*Valid Forms:*

DEGDT

PDA

DA

DATE

*Example:*

DEGDT(1994)

### Degree Name

Use to search degree name. For masters thesis and doctoral dissertation records, identifies the degree. Use **keyword(s)** to search this field.

*Valid Forms:*

DEGREE

DG

DDN

*Example:*

DG(MSN)

### Department

Use this field to search for dissertations granted by a specific department.

*Valid Form:*

DEP



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### Examples:

DEP(School of Engineering)  
DEP(Computer Science)

### Dissertation Volume / Issue (DVI)

You can limit your search to the DAI (Dissertation Abstracts International) database or the MAI (Master's Abstracts International) database. The default setting specifies a search across both.

Use this field to narrow your search to social sciences and humanities (volume A) or sciences and engineering (volume B). Or search for specific issue numbers.

**Note:** Limiting by volume or issue may not make sense if your subscription only covers a portion of the database.

**Valid Form:**  
DISVOL

**Examples:**  
DISVOL(DAI-B 56-02)  
DISVOL(B)

### Document ID

Searches the unique database ID for articles and documents in ProQuest.

**Valid Form:**  
ID

**Example:**  
ID(1579693381)

### Document Language

Use to search language index. This field contains the language in which the document was published originally. You can select languages from the language field specific index.

**Valid Forms:**  
LA  
LN

### Examples:

LA(french)  
LN(french or english)

### Document Text

Searches only the full text of the graduate works for your search terms. The abstracts are not included in this search. AND, OR, and other search operators are treated as such unless enclosed in quotes.

**Valid Forms:**  
TEXT  
TX

**Examples:**  
TEXT(Kofi Annan)  
TX("North Sea oil")

### Document Title

Locates the occurrence of search words in the title of the document.

**Valid Forms:**  
TITLE  
TI

**Examples:**  
TITLE(Future)  
TI(future AND career)

### ISBN

This search field looks for the ten-digit International Standard Book Number (ISBN), where available. Do not enter hyphens. Spaces are required.

**Valid Form:**  
ISBN

**Examples:**  
ISBN(91 7170 355 1)

### Publication Number (UMI Order Number)

Search for a specific dissertation by publication number. This number appears in each citation. You



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must OMIT "AAT" from the ID number. You can include or omit any dashes.

*Valid Form:*  
DISPUB

*Examples:*  
DISPUB(3130208)  
DISPUB(MM-98765)

### School Location

Lets you search for a school in a specific geographic location, such as state, province, or country. From the Browse tab, you can browse by location to select from a list of the available locations.

*Valid Form:*  
SCHLOC

*Example:*  
SCHLOC(Denmark)

### School Name / Code

Search for dissertations granted by a specific school. Enter the school name or four-digit school code. You can use this field to search for a list of all schools within a particular country by entering the country name.

You can click the **Look up schools** link to select from a list of available schools.

*Valid Forms:*  
SC  
SCH  
SCHNAME

*Examples:*  
SCHNAME(University of Michigan)  
SC(sweden)  
SCH(0300)

### Subject Name / Code

Use the subject name / code search field to look for dissertations or theses about a specific subject.

You can enter a subject name, or the four number subject code associated with each subject name.

You can also open the **Browse** tab to select subjects from a list of thos available.

Subject terms in this field conform to the ProQuest/UMI Controlled Vocabulary.

*Note:* Subject searching is most effective when used with keyword, degree date, or other search limiters. Otherwise, the large size of the dissertation database may mean that your search takes several minutes to perform, and that your results set is unwieldy.

*Valid Form:*  
SUB

*Example:*  
SUB(Music)

### Supplemental Files

Search for dissertations containing supplemental files such as images, videos, documents or spreadsheets. Enter the supplemental file type.

You can click the **Browse supplemental file types** link to select from a list of available file types. Select **All file types** to limit your search to graduate works containing any type of supplemental file.

*Valid Forms:*  
SFILE  
SMAT

*Examples:*  
SFILE(video)  
SMAT(image)

### Year

Used to search publication year.

*Valid Forms:*  
YR  
PY

*Example:*  
YR(1971)



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### Stop Words

ProQuest ignores the following frequently used words. To use them as part of a search phrase, enclose them with quotation marks (""). *Example:* "the sound and the fury".

about	after	also	an	and
any	are	as	at	be
because	been	between	both	but
by	can	could	do	each
for	from	had	has	have
how	if	into	is	it
its	just	like	make	many
more	most	much	no	not
now	of	only	or	other
our	out	said	should	so
some	such	than	that	the
their	them	there	these	they
this	those	through	to	use
was	we	were	what	when
which	while	who	will	with
would				

### Where to find help

#### Search our Support Center:

<http://www.proquest.com/support>

#### To access product help and training documentation:

<http://www.proquest.com/go/training>

<http://www.proquest.co.uk/go/training>

#### By phone

**In North America:** 800-889-3358

**Outside North America:** 0880 220 710 (UK only)  
+44 1223 271 496 (Outside of UK)