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# Finding Information on Economics & Business

In order to produce good quality assignments, you should be using a range of different sources and materials. ***It is important to realise that you should be making use of QUALITY sources only, rather than simply relying on such as Wikipedia.*** This handout will help you find a wide range of **quality** material in the field of economics.

If you are struggling  
to find what you need  
- ask the Learning  
Centre staff.

They like to help!



## Online Resources

The Learning Centre has bought licences to a range of specialised databases to help you find **QUALITY** material that has been assessed by fellow experts (peer-reviewed); these databases are **NOT** available freely via the web and should be a key part of your research.

**To log in to these databases, you need your OPEN ATHENS password. You need to COME INTO THE LEARNING CENTRE to fill in a form for this password. It is important that you do this as soon as possible.** You will then be given your username and password **Please make a note of these!**

Once you have your OpenAthens password, go to

<http://intolearningcentre.co.uk/online-resources/> and click on the

OpenAthens logo



**You will then have access to the following databases:**

- **The Reviews (was called Philip Allan Databases)**

Online access to current and past copies of *Business Review*, *Economic Review*, and *Politics Review*. Great way of keeping up-to-date with current issues. Great for economics course work.

Details of how to use this database efficiently are available in a range of simple guides (**Simple guides 11-16**)

- **EBSCO Discovery** Provides a quick and easy way to search nearly 7,000 academic and business journals as well as electronic books. You can access the databases from INTO Manchester or at home. It is available via

Make use of other libraries such as Manchester Central Library or the University of Manchester library  
Ask Learning Centre staff for details

<http://intolearningcentre.co.uk/online-resources/> Log in with your **OpenAthens password**. The Learning Resource Centre has 2 detailed guides on how to use Ebsco Discovery. Please ask the staff.

**Issues Online** Database on social issues; covers topics such as ethics in business & globalisation. Includes key statistics and also links to a range of e-books on social issues. Access **Issues Online** from INTO Manchester or at home. It is available via **http://**

**intolearningcentre.co.uk/online-resources/**

You need an extra password to use this database, **this is on the screen when you go into Ebsco Discovery**

There is a separate leaflet on how to use *Issues Online* (Simple Guide 19)

You need your OPEN ATHENS password to use the INTO Manchester databases. If you do not have one, ask the Learning Centre staff

## • Books

Your teacher will recommend key texts that you should read as part of your studies: most of these should be available in the Learning Centre. To find both paper and electronic books you need to search using the Library Catalogue.

The catalogue is available via the Learning Centre website at **https://intolearningcentre.co.uk/**

The Library Catalogue gives you the “Dewey number” of the book. This will help you find it on the shelf as all books in the Learning Centre are organised in Dewey number order The Dewey number for economics is **330**; for business studies **650** Details of how to use the catalogue efficiently are available in **Guide 4 Finding a Book in the Learning Centre**

## • Electronic/ E-Books

Electronic books covering key topics in economics are also available and you can use these both at INTO Manchester or at home. As well

as searching for a full book, you can also search across **ALL** the pages in available books, all at the same time, for the topic you are interested in.

Electronic books are available via Ebook Central and Ebsco Discovery which you find at <http://intolearningcentre.co.uk/online-resources/> You need your **OpenAthens** password to log in

**There are separate leaflets on how to use *E-Books* (Simple Guides 17/18)**

### • **Use Moodle**

Your tutors will have put valuable material on Moodle, the Virtual Learning Environment. **It is important that you log in and gain access to the Economics area of Moodle.** This is available via the Learning Centre website at

<http://intolearningcentre.co.uk/> **Select Moodle.**

**If you need a password to register with the economics section on Moodle, your teacher will give it to you.**

## **Useful Websites**

The internet is full of information resources for you to use for your studies. However, it is **VERY** important that you use information from reputable sources only. The internet is full of information resources for you to use for your studies. However, it is **VERY** important that you use information from reputable sources only.

*Anyone can (and many do!) set up a website just to fool people/ promote their own point of view, so you need to be careful about which sources you use.*

## Subject Gateways

It is recommended that you make use of **Subject Gateways** that contain web resources that have been evaluated and quality checked by subject experts. Here are some subject gateways you might find of use for your research:

- **CORE (COnnecting REpositories)**

Free access to millions of open access research papers.

**Website:** <https://core.ac.uk/>

- **Digital Commons Network**

Brings together free, full-text scholarly articles from hundreds of universities and colleges worldwide. **Website:** <http://network.bepress.com/>

- **Directory of Open Access Journals**

Gives access to some very useful “peer reviewed” journals for you to use. This means that articles have been checked by fellow experts. Suitable for those carrying out in-depth research. **Website:** <http://www.doaj.org/>

- **JURN**

Finds content in over 4,000 FREE ‘open access’ ejournals in the arts and humanities. Provides a useful list of the journals included. **Website:** <http://www.jurn.org/>

## Useful Websites: Current Affairs and News

- **BBC News** Latest UK and World news from the BBC.  
**Website:** <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/>
- **British Media Online** An interface to a wide range of major UK daily newspapers, local newspapers, media outlets and industry journals. **Website:** <http://www.wrx.zen.co.uk/britnews.htm>

- **Economist**

An absolute **must** for keeping up-to-date with current ideas and trends in economics. Can read the current print copy of *The Economist* online as well as in print in the Learning Centre.

**Website:** <http://www.economist.com/>

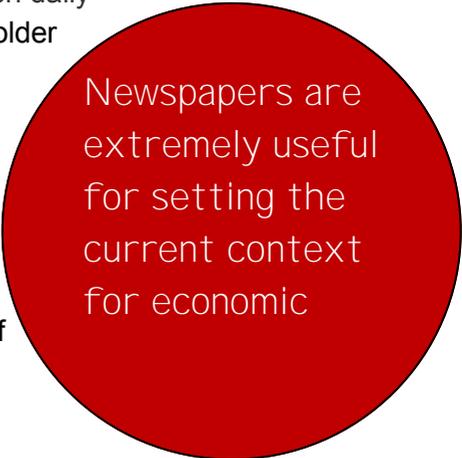
- **Guardian Newspaper**

Online version of *The Guardian*, the British daily national newspaper. A limited archive of older items from the paper is also available.

**Website:** <http://www.guardian.co.uk/>

- **Independent Newspaper**

Online version of *The Independent* newspaper, the British daily national newspaper. Has free access to archive of stories back to 1992. **Website:** <http://www.independent.co.uk/>



Newspapers are extremely useful for setting the current context for economic

## Useful Websites: Economics

- **Bank of England**

Gives an overview of the work of the Bank of England, the Central Bank of the United Kingdom. Contains information on monetary policy in the UK and is packed full of statistics on such as trends in lending, exchange and interest rates. **Website:** [http://](http://www.bankofengland.co.uk)

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- **BBC Economy News**

Business and Economic news. Key starting point for keeping up-to-date with current economic events and business news.

**Website:** <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business/economy/>

- **Economist**

An absolute **must** for keeping up-to-date with current ideas and trends in economics. Has a useful economics A-Z to help you define terms and has some fascinating debates on issues between different economic experts. Can read the current print copy of *The Economist* online.

**Website:** <http://www.economist.com/>

- **Guardian Business**

Useful for keeping up to date on current concerns in both business and economics.

**Website:** <http://www.guardian.co.uk/business/uk-edition>

**Website:** <http://www.guardian.co.uk/business/economics>

- **Institute for Fiscal Studies**

Researches how economic and social policies of the UK government impact upon society; website contains facts and figures about UK taxes, benefits, and public finances. **Website:** <http://www.ifs.org.uk/>

- **London Stock Exchange**

Round-up of market news with detailed statistics on UK and International companies admitted to the Stock Exchange; also has historical data. Able to order company annual reports from the website. **Website:** <http://www.londonstockexchange.com/home/homepage.htm>

- **Office for National Statistics**

A fantastic starting point for a wide range of statistics- population, economic, labour market, health etc. etc. **Website:** <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/index.html>

- **Business Case Studies**

Uses real information and issues from the companies sponsoring the website to show the complexities of business by using relevant context and content. **Website:** <http://businesscasestudies.co.uk/>

- **Tutor2U** Offers reference material for students and teachers of economics: read/ study notes, watch presentations and videos and get advice about exam technique. <http://www.tutor2u.net/economics/reference>

- **United Kingdom Economic Accounts (UKEA)**

A key source of data on the economy providing detailed estimates of national product, income and expenditure for the UK.

**Website:** <http://bit.ly/15qZ0rc>  
(shortened URL)



Manchester Central Library  
(a free public library for all)  
has access to many online  
journals, via its *Access to  
Research* system. Ask the  
Learning Centre staff for  
more details