

# Helpful Hints: Searching for Theses and Dissertations

There are a couple of ways to go about finding theses and dissertations of students advised by ESL faculty.

## ESL Digital Library Catalog and Repository Collection:

A list of all theses and dissertations can be found in the digital library [catalog](#) and can be identified by the “ESL-TH-XX-XX” identifier. Some of these may have links, or handles, to the Texas A&M Library Repository where a digital copy of the item is stored. However, due to copyright issues not all theses and dissertations are stored in the Energy Systems Laboratory collection.

## Office of Graduate Studies Repository Collection:

A digital copy of the thesis/dissertation may also be found in the Office of Graduate Studies collection within the Texas A&M Library Repository which is located at:

<http://repository.tamu.edu/handle/1969.1/1>

Theses and Dissertations that have been published between 2002 and 2010 can be found by using the OGS search box illustrated below (Figure 1).

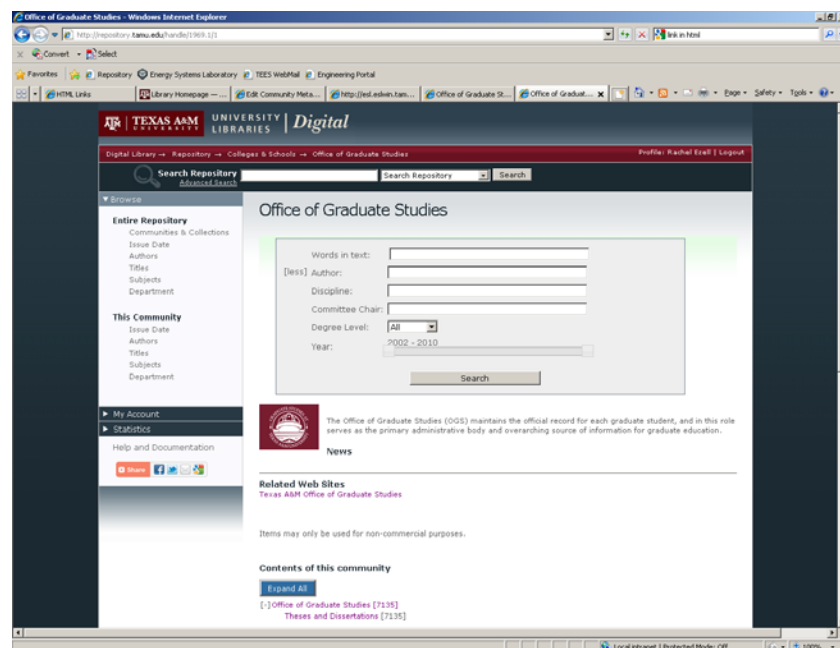


Figure 1: Office of Graduate Studies Repository

Note: Not all theses and dissertations between 2002 and 2004 have been uploaded as of August 2011.

## Texas A&M University Library and ProQuest:

In addition, the Texas A&M University Library has links to different databases that can aid in the search for theses and dissertations. Above the search bar, the 'Databases' tab will allow you to search only through databases that meet your search criteria. In this case, the search would be for theses and dissertations (Figure 2).

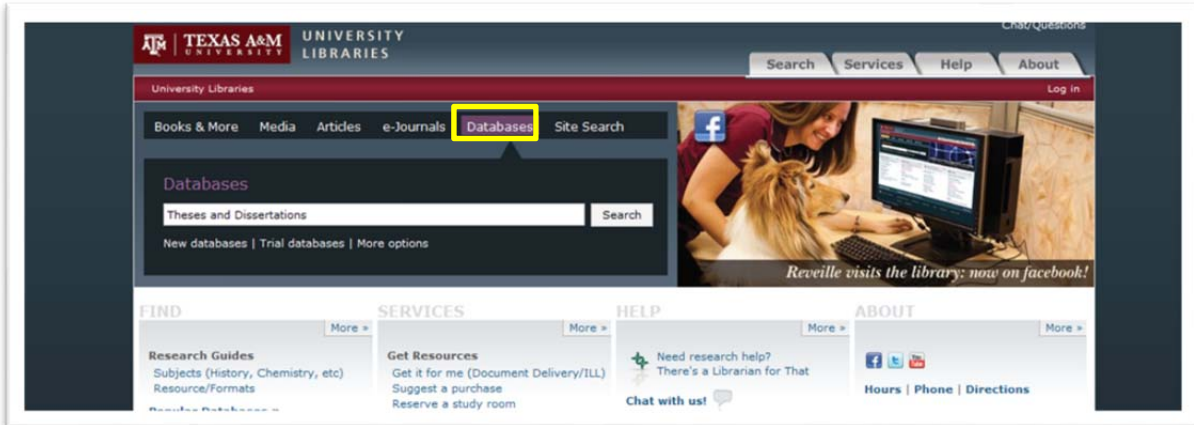


Figure 2: Database Search

A list of databases will appear, including 'ProQuest Dissertations and Theses-Full Text' (Figure 3).

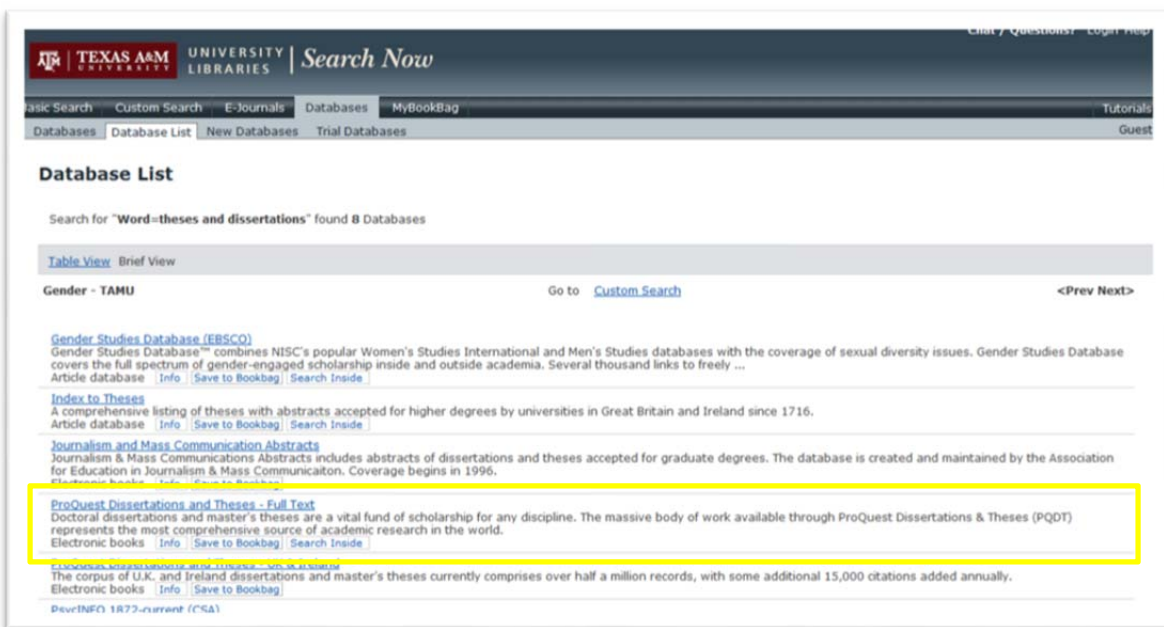


Figure 3: TAMU Database Search Results

Selecting this database will bring you to the ProQuest website basic search page (Figure 4). In the upper right hand corner, there will be a Search Tips button that will provide assistance when searching within ProQuest. There is also a 'More Search Options' tab below the basic search tool bar which will provide

additional search criteria. The 'Advanced' tab, located at the top left side of the page will allow you to narrow your search.

One way to narrow down the search for TAMU student theses and dissertations would be to search by school, in this case, Texas A&M University. Under the 'More Search Options' tab, either type the school name or find the school using the 'Look Up Schools' option on the right. To further narrow the search, include title or author information as well.

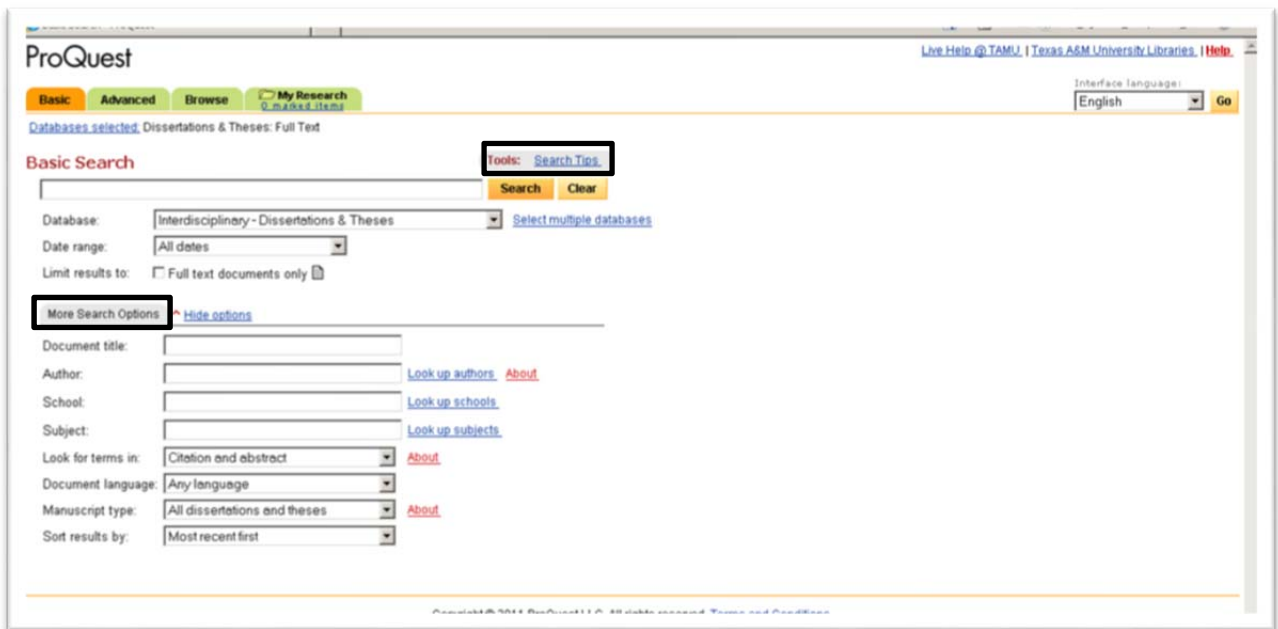


Figure 4: ProQuest Basic Search

Once the thesis or dissertation has been found, you can open a Full Text-PDF, an Abstract, or a Preview of the first couple of pages.

For more information, ProQuest has provided a search guide that can be located at:

<http://training.proquest.com/trc/training/en/gettingstarted.pdf>