ECE 380: Finding Technical Resources
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ECE 380 Course Guide: http://guides.boisestate.edu/ece380

Objectives:
- Compare two technical article databases
- Identify your next steps for finding more information for your project

To access the ECE 380 Course Guide:
From the Library’s home page at: http://library.boisestate.edu , click Research Guides on the left menu, click Electrical & Computer Engineering, then under the Specific Classes tab, click ECE 380.

Remote access (off-campus) is available to the databases. Be sure to go through a Library page to the resource, and then use your my.boisestate username and password to access the resource. You can access article databases from the Library home page by clicking on the Articles & Databases tab or from the ECE 380 guide, Home | Articles tab.

Activity – Respond using the worksheet provided in class.

Research Databases Comparison
You will compare two article databases that provide information and access to articles, papers and other materials covering electrical and computer engineering topics.

Location: These databases are listed on the ECE 380 guide, Technical Article Databases box.
Library Quick Tips

The Library’s home page is at: http://library.boisestate.edu

**Find it Button** -- If you see this: ![Find it button](image) within an article database, clicking on this button will open a new page or tab with information about the availability of an article.

   *Alert!* This doesn’t work with books and success varies for conference papers.

Use the **Journal tab** to find out if the Library has access to a specific journal. The direct link is: http://journals.boisestate.edu/.

Use **Google Scholar** [under the Article Databases tab] to search for a specific article. Time saver: you can set your Google Scholar preferences to show the Find it button.

**Finding Books** -- The search box on the Library home page (WorldCat Local) searches books, articles and media located at the Boise State University Albertsons Library AND resources available at thousands of libraries worldwide. Use the Interlibrary Loan service to request those items that are not available at the Library.

**Conference Papers** -- For various reasons, papers from conference proceedings are not always handled well in finding tools. If it is an IEEE Conference Proceedings, search IEEE Xplore directly. Otherwise, try both the Journals Titles database and WorldCat Local. If you do not locate the conference that you are looking for by using these search tools, request the paper through Interlibrary Loan.

**Interlibrary Loan (ILL)** is a library service for obtaining materials not available in the Boise State University Albertsons Library collection. If your title is not found by the “Find it” button, or by doing a Journal Titles search (or for conference proceedings, a WorldCat Local search), you can obtain the article through an ILL request. **More info** is on the ECE 380 guide, Locating the Full text tab, Interlibrary Loan box.

Direct link to the **ECE 380 guide**: http://guides.boisestate.edu/ece380

**Your Next Steps**

List two specific activities you could do to find relevant information for your project.

   Examples:
   - Search for a book that might include “theory of operation” [specific for your device]
   - Search IEEE Xplore and read two articles that look relevant

1)  

2)