

Richard the Researcher



Accessing full-text articles online is my primary use of the library and is central to my research...but I still go to the library for some reference materials that aren't online.

Key Facts

- **Dedicated full time student with significant knowledge in his area of study**
- **Working on a long term, in depth project**
- **Will pursue all avenues to obtain materials related to his research**

What he needs to do

- Look up full text articles (already has citations)
- Refer to facts in authoritative reference materials
- Organize research materials

Pain points

- Getting from a citation to full text
- Only comfortable using his one 'go-to' database

Richard is a 29 year old doctoral student in the College of Built Environments. He's working on a dissertation about public transportation utilization and incentives, which he models with computer simulations.

Richard has already completed a Master's in Civil Engineering and has used academic libraries for research at both his undergraduate and masters' institution. He feels like he knows his way around a library, but he hasn't actually had any library instruction at UW or spent much time finding out everything that's available here.

To earn his doctorate, Richard needs to do original research, which means reviewing everything published on transportation modeling. He focuses on journals because that's where the important work in the area is published, and he uses EndNote to save a list of all the articles he comes across.

Richard's faculty advisor refers him to specific authors and articles, and fellow students actively share advice about other resources to try (such as Web of Science, which lets him see who has cited a certain article).

He also makes heavy use of internet sites like Google Scholar and public databases on government sites.

Richard usually works from his lab, where he has several different networked computers to run simulations. He also visits the Engineering Library, Foster Business Library, and Suzzallo to retrieve materials from different disciplines that relate to his project.

Richard is very comfortable with technology. Generally if he has trouble online he will try figure it out for himself or search for online instructions rather than ask someone for help.

How He Uses the Libraries Website

- Searches the catalog for specific texts that he's seen referenced in other works or heard about from colleagues
- Looks in the Web of Science database to find out which other researchers have cited articles important to his project
- Searches for the full text of citations that he's found through Google Scholar



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