Using Google Scholar

You have two choices to open Google scholar.

1. Go to www.google.co.uk select the More option and then Scholar.

2. Go directly to: http://scholar.google.co.uk/ this is the best option if you are using Google scholar on a regular basis as you can bookmark the page.

What is Google scholar?

Google Scholar is a feature of Google that allows you to search for scholarly literature. The results are markedly different from using Google web. This is because Google scholar only sources material from academic publishers, professional societies, online repositories, universities and other research institutions.

Setting your Scholar Preferences

To make your searching easier you need to set the Scholar Preferences. Some material in Google scholar is available full text but the majority is not; it will merely inform you that the resource exists. However you can tell Google scholar to give you the option of looking at DMU’s online resources to see if we have the resource full text through one of our databases. You can do this from any computer, at home or at university.

From the cog select Scholar Preferences.
On this page you can set your preferences. In the **Library Links** box type De Montfort, then **Find Library**.

Options for De Montfort University appear. Select them all with the tick boxes and click **Save Preferences**.

Note: if you are using a computer on-campus this option may already be selected.

Now when you search Google scholar on that computer the results will give you the option to search DMU’s online resources for full text options by selecting **Find it @ DMU**.

This option will appear for as long as you have De Montfort University as your option in Scholar Preferences.

If you use reference management software from the Scholar Preferences page you can also select an option that allows you to directly import references into your chosen software.

Look for **Bibliography Manager**. Select **Show links to import citations into** and from the drop down menu choose the software that you use. Click **Save Preferences**.
Note that now your results will have the extra option to directly import the citation into a selected reference management software package.

Using Google Scholar to do a search

To use Google scholar effectively it is best to use the Advanced Scholar Search.

Advanced Scholar Search

This allows you to combine search terms. You can search for specific words and exact phrases.

In the above search we are looking for resources about corporate social responsibility within the financial sector, specifically banking but not about insurance. We have also asked for articles written since 2000.
We could also search for resources written by a specific author but you would only do this if you knew about an author being an expert in their field.

**Results in Google scholar**

You sometimes get access to the full text in Google scholar but usually you are linked through to the publisher’s website or a University website. Some useful features are:

- **Cited by** and **Related articles**. **Cited by** is how many other references to this article are in Google scholar. This can be useful if you want to see what other authors think of the article – do they agree or disagree with it. **Related articles** are articles on a similar topic.

As well as articles from journals and websites you will also find results from books and citations.

Book results will link you through to a publisher website or Google books where you may get a preview of the book. To view the whole book you’ll need to check our Library Catalogue to see if we have it in stock.

Citations are taken from other references and listed as individual resources. You may notice this with older references.

End of help sheet.