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Starting

1. Identify the key terms (concepts) contained in your topic, as well as any synonyms or alternative terms.
2. Search on iFind, the library catalogue http://ifind.swan.ac.uk for Proquest Dissertations & Theses and click on the link to take you to the database OR select Dissertations and Theses from the A-Z Database List from Library Guides http://libguides.swansea.ac.uk
   You will need to log in with your Swansea University username and password.
3. We suggest using the Advanced search option at the top as this makes it easier to see the different search options available.

Searching

Basic Searching

Type a keyword or phrase such as accident or nuclear power station into the search box. Click the Search button.

Refining Your Search

You can use operators AND, OR and NOT to refine your search. These can be selected from a drop down menu in Advanced search.

* if you retrieve too many records, narrow the search using and eg. accident AND chernobyl and click search
* if you retrieve too few records, broaden the search using or eg. accident OR disaster and click search
* if you want something excluded from the records you retrieve, use not eg. accident NOT chernobyl and click search
End a term with * to pick up all possible endings. eg. comput* to pick up computer, computers, computing, etc. You can also use ? to replace a single letter, e.g. wom?n will pick up woman or women.

Make your search as specific as possible.

Help

1. Click the Question mark at the top right of the screen.
2. If you need any further help using this database, ask at the Information Desk or contact your Subject Librarian.

Displaying

Click on the blue link or preview icon to go to the preview of the dissertation. Clicking on the Abstract/details link will show the abstract and citation details.

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An increasing number of theses are made freely available online, so it is worth doing an internet search before contacting them.