WHAT IS Linc? Use Linc, the online catalog, to find books, print and electronic, DVDs and videos, government documents, and periodicals available at ESCC and in other VCCS libraries.


Five types of searches are available:
- Basic – displays as default search; used most often; good place to start
- Advanced – finds specific formats (i.e. visual materials); searches in various fields
- Browse – results in alphabetical or numerical order; move forward or backwards
- Command – uses CCL-Common Command Language Codes (more info’ in Linc Help)
- Multi-Catalog – searches selected VCCS library catalogs; also finds E-Journals in MetaLinc

The top frame always displays the menu bar; the lower one shows search options and displays results.

You do not have to sign in to search Linc. But you may sign in with your MyESCC username/password to see your personal library information (My Account), renew and place holds on items, and customize displays.

The e-Shelf function lets you select records to be saved and viewed later.

The Search History function allows you to view previous saved search queries.

WHAT ARE SOME GENERAL SEARCH HINTS?

The examples displayed for each Search Type selected may be very helpful when beginning your search.

Use keywords to begin a search, to look for a current trend or issue, or if unsure of correct subject headings.

Example: college campus violence

Lowercase letters find matches of capitalized words also.

Example: computer will find matches for computer, Computer, and COMPUTER.

Linc supports use of Boolean operators (AND, OR, NOT) for defining searches. AND is assumed.

Example: chesapeake and bay and oysters finds the same records as chesapeake bay oysters.

The ? or * characters before or after search terms finds matches that contain portions of words.

Example: gun? will retrieve gun, gunners, guns, etc. Example: *ology will retrieve, archaeology, psychology, etc.

WHAT ARE SOME SPECIFIC SEARCH HINTS?

For Keywords Anywhere, word order is not important; use quotes to perform a phrase search.

For Title begins with..., omit a, an, or the when they appear at the beginning of a title.

For Author, last name first, you do not need to separate the last and first name with a comma.

For Author Keywords or Title Keywords, word order is not important.

For Subject (LC) begins with ..., use descriptor headings found in subject fields of records.

WHERE CAN I GET HELP?

LRC staff will help you on campus, online, by email or phone. Or click Linc Help when searching.