Instruction Book for Creating Persistent Links (Including DOI)

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### Important Note about Using Persistent Links:

If you are persistent linking to the library’s subscription databases, please ensure that the following prefix is in front of the link: [http://proxy.library.unbc.ca/login?url=[link]].

Freely accessible websites don’t need this only material from the subscription databases.

Some databases do this automatically, such as Academic Search Premier, but others especially those that use the DOI system will need this prefix added. So the link should look like this: [http://proxy.library.unbc.ca/login?url=http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/s8755-7223(00)80006-X](http://proxy.library.unbc.ca/login?url=http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/s8755-7223(00)80006-X)

If students are reporting having trouble connecting, this is the first thing to check.
Introduction:

What is a persistent link?
If you want to redistribute a URL from a database search do not copy the URL in the address bar of your web browser. Links from the library catalogue and the library’s subscription databases are “session-based” and because they are temporary they will not provide a permanent link. In order to create links for your course web pages, reserve and Blackboard materials, you need to create a persistent link. Persistent links are also referred to as stable URLs, permanent links and DOIs.

Before creating a persistent links to materials in the library’s subscription databases, it is essential to check the Terms and Conditions. This is not necessary for electronic books or course reserve records.

“Session Timed Out” Error Message
If you are getting a Session Timed Out error message when you are trying to access a database, it may be due to the use of an expired link. When you initially log in, you are automatically redirected to a temporary URL that cannot be bookmarked. This initial log in creates a session on the database server. A session is considered one cycle of user activity that starts when a user connects to the service. Sessions are not permanent and any URL that refers to a session will eventually time out.

Below is an example of a session based URL. Notice how much longer it is than the persistent link/URL. The extra information is a clue that a URL is temporary.

Persistent Link:
http://www.jstor.org/stable/1593821

Session Based URL:
http://www.jstor.org/stable/1593821?&Search=yes&searchText=shakespeare&list=hide&searchUri=%2Faction%2FdoAdvancedSearch%3Fq0%3Dshakespeare%26f0%3Dall%26c1%3DAND%26g1%3D%26f1%3Dall%26acc%3Don%26Search%3DSearch%26sd%3D%26ed%3D%26la%3D%26jo%3D%26jc.Anthropology_AmericanAntiquity%3Dj100054&prevSearch=&item=1&ttl=6&returnArticleService=showFullText


Persistent linking allows a user to originate from outside of a database to initiate a new session simply by following the URL. Therefore persistent links allow users to retrieve an article or record by clicking on a link embedded in a web site. This feature permits the instructor to embed links to articles within their course syllabus, Blackboard or secure site.
Persistent Linking to Books in the Library Catalogue:

To link to an e-book record in the library catalogue, bring up the title of the work and adjacent to the title on the record page, you will see *Persistent link to this record*.


See the persistent link

Check out the URL
Click the **Persistent Link**. Now notice the URL in address bar. Now you can copy and paste the new URL into your BlackBoard site or course syllabus.

See how the URL has changed this is your persistent link.
Persistent Linking to Course Reserve Records in the Library Catalogue:

Linking to Course Reserve records can be helpful for adding to your BlackBoard site. Linking to a course reserve record in the library catalogue is essentially the same process as any library record.

For example: Search Geog 426 and pull up the first record, A Backwards, Upside-Down Kind of Development.

Again click on the Persistent Link to this Record and copy the new URL that is created in the address bar. You can now paste this into your BlackBoard site.
Persistent Linking to Journal Articles in the Library’s subscription databases:

Linking to journal articles is a bit trickier because each index and database uses a different system. Once you become familiar with where to look, it’s very easy. Here are the more common databases. If you need help with any others, please contact the Library Assistant - Copyright.

As mentioned earlier, the first step is to check the Terms and Conditions and ensure that your use falls within the negotiated permissions of that database.

This instruction booklet outlines the step-by-step instructions for the following databases.

- JStor
- EBSCO (via Academic Search Premier)
- Proquest (via CBCA Education)
- Oxford Journals (DOI example)
- OVID (Cochrane)
JStor:

Type *JStor* into the search bar on the library homepage and search by Title. Once you are in the database, search *Social Class, Cultural Repertoires*, choose Item Title and Search. Click on the title, *Social Class, Cultural Repertoires, and Popular Culture: The Case of Film*. You will see the Persistent Link at the top of the page under the citation information.

The persistent link in this database is referred to as a *Stable URL*.
EBSCO (via Academic Search Premier):

Type **Academic Search Premier** into the search bar on the library homepage and search by Title. Once you are in the database, search **Oman’s Foreign Policy**, choose Search. Click on the title, **Oman’s Foreign Policy in the Twenty-First Century**.

The link will appear in a small window above the article’s title. Copy and paste the link contained within this small window. The persistent link in this database is referred to as a **Permalink**.
ProQuest (via CBCA Complete):

Type **CBCA Complete** into the search bar on the library homepage and search by Title. Once you are in the database, search **Living Up to Expectations the Strengths**, choose Search. Click on the title, **Living Up to Expectations**.

At the top of the page you will see, **Copy Link**. Click this heading and a small window will open.

Copy and paste this URL, referred to as a **durable link** into your BlackBoard site.
**Oxford Journals:**

Type *Oxford Journals* into the search bar on the library homepage and search by Title. Once you are in the database, search *Improved Virological*, choose Search. Click on the title, *Improved Virological Outcomes in British Columbia Concomitant with Decreasing* ...

This database uses DOI which requires the prefix [http://dx.doi.org/](http://dx.doi.org/) to be added to enable the link to work, so this article would be [http://dx.doi.org/10.1086/648729](http://dx.doi.org/10.1086/648729)

To allow students to access this article from off-campus, you would add the proxy information ([http://proxy.library.unbc.ca/login?url=](http://proxy.library.unbc.ca/login?url=)) so the final URL would be [http://proxy.library.unbc.ca/login?url=http://dx.doi.org/10.1086/648729](http://proxy.library.unbc.ca/login?url=http://dx.doi.org/10.1086/648729)

**Science Direct Journals:**

*Science Direct* uses the DOI system. Locate the DOI in the article you wish to use and copy and paste. You will need to add the prefix, [http://dx.doi.org/](http://dx.doi.org/) to your link for it to work properly.
Gale Cengage Learning (via CPI.Q):

Type **CPI.Q** into the search bar on the library homepage and search by Title. Once you are in the database, search **Clark set to unveil HST fix this week**, choose Search. Click on the title, **Clark set to unveil HST fix this week**.

Once you locate the full-text article you wish to use, click on Bookmark in the Tools box and copy and paste the URL from the pop up window.
OVID Journals (via Cochrane):

Type **Cochrane** into the search bar on the library homepage and search by Title. Once you are in the database, search **Cultivating Quality**, choose Search. Click on the title, **Cultivating Quality: Implementing Standardized Reporting and Safety Checklists** ...

On the right side of the page there is a column called **Article Tools**, click **Email Jumpstart** and a window will pop open, copy the **Jumpstart URL** from this window. This will be your persistent URL.
Tips:

- Be sure to test your links both from on and off campus and also from semester to semester.
- For off campus access, users will need to authenticate with their Library card number and PIN.
- Keep copyright rules in mind when linking or downloading library databases materials. Check the terms and conditions and if you have any questions please contact the Library Assistant – Serials or the Library Assistant – Copyright.
- Always provide a proper citation for any materials you use.

This is just a sampling of databases and is not intended to be comprehensive.

If you require further assistance, please contact the Reference Desk at (250) 960-6475 or libref@unbc.ca.

For copyright questions, please contact:

Library Assistant – Copyright
Geoffrey R. Weller Library
University of Northern British Columbia
Tel. (250) 960-6057
Email. libcopyright@unbc.ca