1: ProQuest Central

ProQuest Central is a comprehensive collection of scholarly journal articles, reports, books, dissertations, and magazines. Covered topics include defense, economics, international affairs, and news. ProQuest Central searches all of the content from several ProQuest databases available in the NWC collections.

2: Finding ProQuest on the NWC Library Homepage

From The Naval War College Website: www.usnwc.edu

Enter the Learning Commons to access the Library Homepage

Working from Off-Campus

You must authenticate via BlackBoard or a CAC card if you are working remotely

Click into the A-Z list and go to the “P” list to find ProQuest Central
3: The ProQuest Platform
An enhanced basic search offering the option to select an item type is the default platform on the landing page in ProQuest.

- Search all types of content
- Select a tab to limit your search to a specific type of content
- Specify full text
- Click to explore search tips

Use basic keywords in this search box, or experiment with more complex strategies.

- Search two keywords with the Boolean operator “AND”
  - water and security

- Search two or more words as a phrase with quotation marks
  - "water security"

- Nest optional terms in quotation marks with the Boolean operator “OR”
  - (Myanmar or Burma) and "human rights"
  - (drones or UAV or robots) and logistics
Proximity Searches
Proximity searches include the use of a “Near” within words operator that increases the relevance of the content. The number used to specify the proximity of the words is random and can be modified to affect the outcome of the results. Note the use of a back slash (/) in the proximity search in *ProQuest*.

The phrase “military ethics” within forty words of the term “technology.”

The keywords water and crisis within 15 words of each other

4: Limiting Search Results
After you have done a search, limiters (filters) for narrowing your search results are featured on the left-hand side of the search results.

Use the drop-down menu to select searching by relevance, most recent, or oldest documents

Clear any applied filters to select different search limiters
Limiting By Source Type

Select a specific source type

Click into “More” to select multiple types of sources for your search

Select one or more source types for your search

Apply or cancel selected source type filters

Clear search limiters/filters at any time during a search to select different limiters
Using Proquest Central

Limiting By Publication Date

Choose the last 12 months, 5 years, or 10 years

Limit by a specific date range

Note that the relevance filter allows limiting by most recent or oldest

5: Using Search Results

Click into a title for item details and to copy the citation, email content, or export the citation to RefWorks

Find the Permalink (PURL) in the citation or in the abstract.

In ProQuest, the PURL is called the Document URL

Copy and paste the citation

Export the citation to a citation management platform such as RefWorks

Email the PDF to yourself with the citation
6: Advanced Searching
The advanced search option is available from the top toolbar of ProQuest. With advanced searching, you can create complex searches using more than one search line.

In the search below, the key subject of “maritime security” is searched in the abstract. The text field (FT) searches “area denial” or anti-access in the content.

7: Creating A Personal User Accounts
If you are a frequent ProQuest user, you can create a personal user account to save your searches and maintain subject folders.

8: ProQuest Help
The Table of Contents in the ProQuest Help pages has drop-down menus full of direction for becoming an expert searcher in ProQuest.

Contact a Reference and Instruction Librarian at: libref@usnwc.edu