

**Finding Worthwhile Web Pages** – The subject directories below are all designed for the academic audience. Notice that some are European products as well. The real key to getting the most from these directories is to use more than one.

**[About.com \(http://www.about.com/\)](http://www.about.com/)**

This is about as big as Yahoo with sites selected and annotated by "Guides" with varying degrees of expertise. Annotations are often chatty and oriented more towards the popular and general than academic. Use " " around phrases to search.

**[Academic Info \(http://www.academicinfo.net\)](http://www.academicinfo.net/)**

This is a directory supposedly tailored to the academic community. Especially interesting is the Digital Library, which you can browse by subject for full text sources. SEARCH TIPS: OR default; can use AND, OR, NOT & ( ); no truncation; no phrase searching; no field searching.

**[BUBL LINK \(http://www.bubl.ac.uk/link/\)](http://www.bubl.ac.uk/link/)**

This is a very selective catalogue (British) of about 11,000 web pages arranged by Dewey Decimal Classification. You can browse by DDC number, if you know one, or by subject category. BUBL also allows you to search at three different levels. Some very elaborate searches are possible!

**[Infomine \(http://infomine.ucr.edu/\)](http://infomine.ucr.edu/)**

"INFOMINE is intended for the introduction and use of Internet/Web resources of relevance to faculty, students, and research staff at the university level. It is being offered as a comprehensive showcase, virtual library and reference tool containing highly useful Internet/Web resources including databases, electronic journals, electronic books, bulletin boards, listservs, online library card catalogs, articles and directories of researchers, among many other types of information. " (from their homepage) INFOMINE has its own internal search engine and includes about 100,000 sites. It is maintained by librarians at UC Riverside and other California universities.

SEARCH TIPS: AND default; can use OR and parentheses; use \* to truncate; use " " around phrases; can select fields to search; has an ADVANCED search mode.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Infomine includes a lot of fee-based resources. To just get free websites, click on ADVANCED SEARCH and select FREE from the RESOURCE ACCESS pull down menu.

**[Internet Scout Report \(http://scout.wisc.edu/\)](http://scout.wisc.edu/)**

This is "...only the best Internet resources, as chosen by the editorial staff of the Scout Report." (from their homepage). They provide superb critical, and very interesting, descriptions of the more than 22,000 sites in the current database. You can search or

browse by subject heading.

SEARCH TIPS: Try ADVANCED mode for more limit options; use “ ” around phrases; try browsing by subject.

### **[intute \(http://www.intute.ac.uk/\)](http://www.intute.ac.uk/)**

intute is the effort of a network of UK universities and other academic organizations/groups. Subject specialists select and write descriptions of the websites to be included. The database currently includes over 110,000 records. You can search or browse the entire database or limit your search to a subset in 4 different areas: Arts & Humanities; Social Sciences; Health & Life Sciences; or, Science, Engineering & Technology. Search options are very sophisticated!

SEARCH TIPS: Use “ ” around phrases, AND, OR, NOT operators. Can limit fields and do much more in ADVANCED search mode. Truncate using an \*.

### **[Librarians Index to the Internet \(http://lii.org\)](http://lii.org/)**

Don't be put off by the initial clutter you see on the screen. It may not be snazzy, but it is efficiently organized, if you take a moment to look closely. Either browse that opening screen to your topic area or click on List of Subjects Used to be led to the best sites on the WWW. All entries are well annotated, so you know where you are going. Includes over 17,000 sites.

SEARCH TIPS: AND default; can use OR, NOT, ( ) also; use \* to truncate; use " " around phrases; can select fields to search.

### **[Scirus \(http://www.scirus.com/\)](http://www.scirus.com/)**

This is THE science search engine. If you want to be sure you are getting REAL science, this is how you want to search the web. It has over 167 million webpages, including abstracts from Medline, free journal articles, information on scientific conferences and meetings, and much, much more. This is an outstanding tool. The Advanced Search mode has many options.

### **[WWW Virtual Library http://www.vlib.org/](http://www.vlib.org/)**

This is a collection of subject guides to web resources in various fields, mostly academic. Although the quality is somewhat variable and there are virtually no annotations, there are some real gems in here. You are best off browsing for the relevant subject guide rather than searching.

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