The Kean University Library offers a variety of print and digital research tools. From the Library’s home page (http://library.kean.edu), you can find:

- **Books, E-books, Videos & More** (Kean Catalog)
- **Articles & More** (Databases)
- **Periodicals List** (Listing of Journals, Magazines, Newspapers)
- **Research Guides** (Librarian-Selected Resources)

The Nancy Thompson Library building is located in the heart of Kean University’s campus and houses the Library’s traditional print Reference books and Main Collection books. In addition, the Library has more than 420,000 e-books, which are accessible from anywhere by anyone who has a Kean Google username and password.

**Book Collections**

Use the following steps to find books, e-books, and U.S. government online documents on wide-ranging topics:

- Go to the Kean University Library’s home page located at [http://library.kean.edu](http://library.kean.edu).
- Click **Books, E-books, Videos, & More** to access the Kean Catalog.
- Type your key words in the search box, then click **Search**.
- Make note of the Library Location designation for any titles of interest. You may see the following Library Location options in your search results:
  - **Main Collection** -- The book is a circulating title and may be checked out. Make note of the call number and status for any Main Collection titles of interest. Books from the Main Collection are shelved by Call Number on the second and third floors of the Kean University Library.
  - **Reference Collection** -- The book does not circulate and must be used in the Library. Reference books are shelved either in the Reference Collection on the first floor or in the Reference Annex on the second floor.
  - **Electronic Resource** – The title is available as an e-book and may be accessed online by clicking the title, then clicking the hyperlink next to the words **Linked Resource**. In many cases, you will need to type your Kean Google username and password in order to access the e-book.
  - **U.S. Government Online Document** – The document is available online by clicking the title, then clicking the hyperlink next to the words **Linked Resource**.

Reference Collection books are an important part of the Library. For instance, subject encyclopedias in the Reference Collection are good sources of background information on topics within particular subject areas. Reference books are full of topic ideas, as well as ideas for narrowing broad topics. The following titles are examples of subject encyclopedias that are available as e-books. You may access any of these books by going to the Kean Catalog and searching for the title:

**Electronic (E-book) Reference Titles**

- Encyclopedia of Children, Adolescents, and the Media
- Encyclopedia of Community
- Encyclopedia of Diversity in Education
- Encyclopedia of Multicultural Psychology
- Encyclopedia of Politics, the Media, and Popular Culture
- Encyclopedia of Social Problems
- Guide to Countries of the World
- Handbook of World Families
- Worldmark Encyclopedia of Cultures and Daily Life

**E-book Available through the Database Listed Below**

- Sage Knowledge
- Gale Virtual Reference Library
- Oxford Reference

* These e-books are available either through the Kean Catalog or through the database listed to the right of the e-book title. Please refer to Research Databases information on page 2 of this handout.

**Periodicals**

The Library provides access to over 59,000 full-text periodicals. Check the **Periodicals List**, available from the Library’s home page (http://library.kean.edu), for information about specific journal, magazine, and newspaper title holdings.
Research Databases

You can find articles on your research topics by searching the Library’s databases. Visit the Library’s home page (http://library.kean.edu), then click Articles & More to access the Databases page. When working off-campus, type your Kean Google username and password after you click on a database name. A few databases are described here:

**Sage Knowledge**

Sage Knowledge provides encyclopedia and other reference book articles. To begin:
- Go to the Library’s home page (http://library.kean.edu).
- Click Articles & More to access the Databases page.
- Click the letter S on the alphabetical menu.
- Click Sage Knowledge.
- Type your key terms in the search box. For example, type: special education
- Click the magnifying glass icon to run the search.

**Gale Virtual Reference Library**

Gale Virtual Reference Library provides encyclopedia and other reference book articles. To begin:
- Go to the Library’s home page (http://library.kean.edu).
- Click Articles & More to access the Databases page.
- Click the letter G on the alphabetical menu.
- Click Gale Virtual Reference Library (Gale Cengage Learning).
- Type your key terms in the basic search box. Use the “and” operator to combine terms and retrieve items that contain all of the terms. For instance, type: cross-cultural communication and business
- Click the magnifying glass icon to run the search.

**EBSCOhost Research Databases**

EBSCOhost provides access to a number of different databases. To begin:
- Go to the Library’s home page (http://library.kean.edu).
- Click Articles & More to access the Databases page.
- Click the letter E on the alphabetical menu.
- Click EBSCOhost Research Databases (EBSCOhost).
- Click EBSCOhost Web.
- Select a database or databases from the list of databases provided. For instance, select Academic Search Premier, Business Source Elite, Communication & Mass Media Complete, Education Source, PsycARTICLES, and/or SocINDEX, then click Continue.
- Type your key terms in the search box. Use the “and” operator to combine terms and retrieve items that contain all of the terms. Use the asterisk (*) as a truncation symbol after a word root to retrieve articles with the word root and all of its possible word endings. For instance, type: video game* and violen* and child*
- Limit your results to articles reviewed or judged by scholars in the field by selecting Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals under the Limit your results heading.
- Click Search.

**ProQuest Research Databases**

ProQuest Research Databases provides access to a wide variety of multidisciplinary journals. To begin:
- Go to the Library’s home page (http://library.kean.edu).
- Click Articles & More to access the Databases page.
- Click the letter P on the alphabetical menu.
- Click ProQuest Research Databases (ProQuest).
- Type your key terms in the Basic Search box. Use the “and” operator to combine terms and retrieve items that contain all of the terms. Use the asterisk (*) as a truncation symbol after a word root to retrieve articles with the word root and all of its possible word endings. For instance, type: math* anxiety and college student*
- Limit your results to articles reviewed or judged by scholars in the field by clicking Peer reviewed.
- Click Search.

Click the Research Guides button on the Library’s home page (http://library.kean.edu/) to access a collection of subject-specific research guides.