

Primo Research Assistant

findit@flinders + AI enhanced discovery

Primo Research Assistant is a search tool that combines the power of artificial intelligence with high quality academic sources provided by the Library.

Simply type in a question and Primo Research Assistant will search a database of journal articles, books and book chapters. It gives you 5 relevant sources and a short AI-generated overview based on the abstracts of these sources.

Primo Research Assistant is a **great tool when you want...**

- An overview of a topic that is new to you
- To find high quality, credible scholarly sources
- To find accurate citations for sources - rather than hallucinated citations for sources that do not exist!
- To search for sources using natural language - rather than constructing a search using boolean connectors, truncation, etc.

1. Ask a question

To get started, simply **type your research question into the search box.**

- Be clear and concise.
- Use neutral language (e.g. *'what is the impact of...'* rather than *'what are the benefits of...'*).
- Don't use prompting techniques, such as *'act as an expert'* or *'use dot points'*.

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How do digital learning platforms influence student engagement and academic performance at university

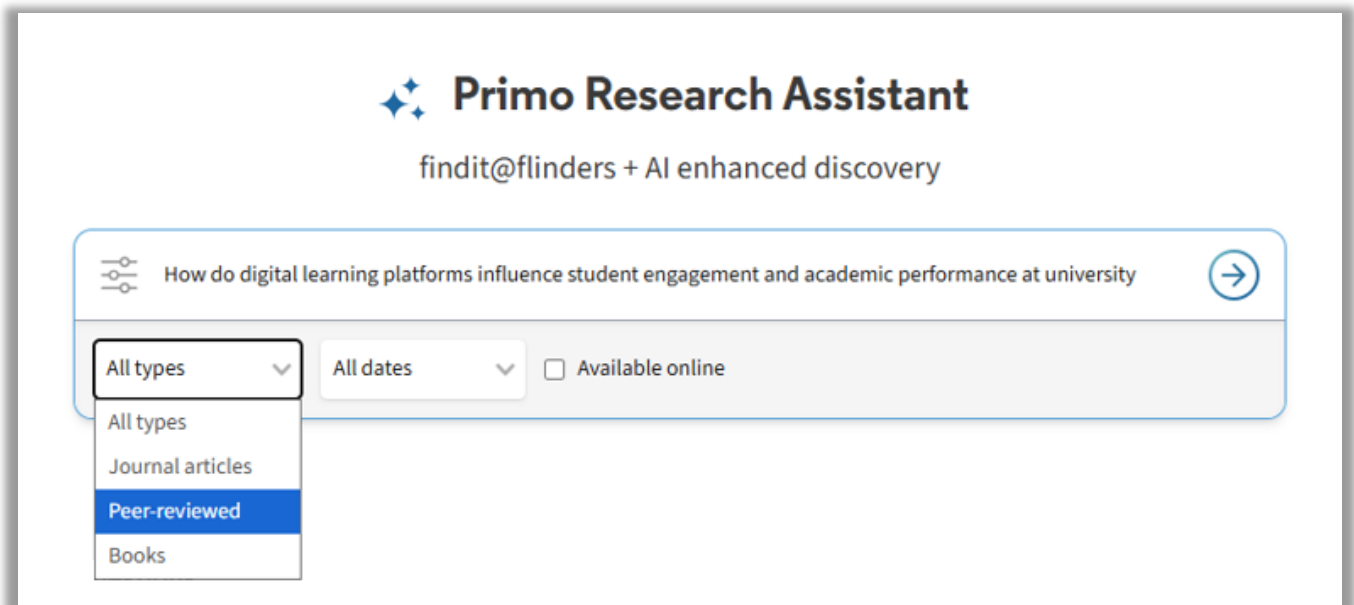


2. Specify type of resource or date range

You can tell Primo Research Assistant to only find:

- Peer-reviewed sources
- Journal articles or books
- Sources published within a certain date range

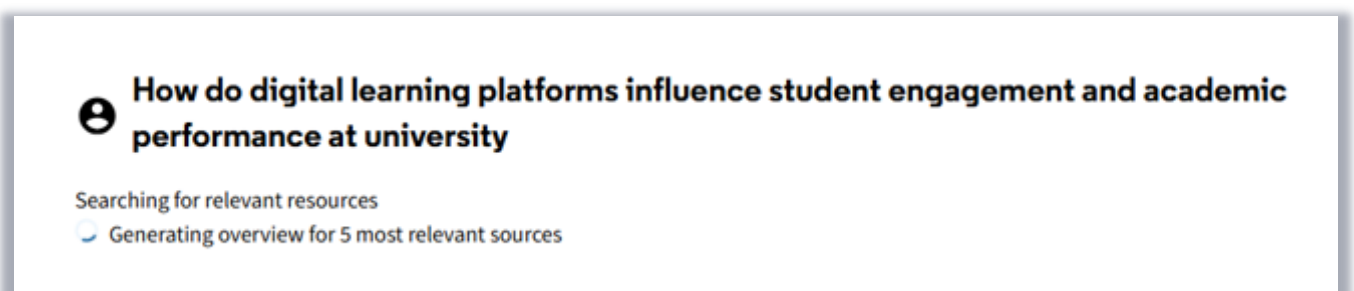
To see these options, **click on the filters icon** to the left of the search box.



3. Wait for Primo Research Assistant to work

Within seconds, Primo Research Assistant:

- Identifies the main concepts from your question and relevant synonyms,
- Uses these as keywords to construct a search query using connectors (e.g. and, or),
- Runs this search over a database of scholarly sources,
- Analyses the top 30 results to identify 5 sources that match your question,
- Uses the abstracts of the 5 sources to generate an overview.



4. Explore the results and overview

When Primo Research Assistant has finished working, this is the screen you will see:

How do digital learning platforms influence student engagement and academic performance at university

Sources

- 1 ARTICLE**
Effects of Digital Learning Platforms on Academic Achievement among Secondary School...
Yao Tung, Khoe 2025
- 2 ARTICLE**
Impact of E-learning Tools (Moodle, Microsoft Teams, Zoom) on Student Engagement and...
Khrisat, Zaid et al. 2024
- 3 ARTICLE**
E-learning in accounting education: the influence of students'...
Krasodomska, Joanna et al. 2021
- 4 ARTICLE**
Exploring the Influence of Students' Modes of Behavioral Engagement in an...
Hsueh, Nien-Lin et al. 2022
- 5 ARTICLE**
Behavioural engagement, academic dishonesty, and performance gaps...
Taşkın, Necati et al. 2025

View more results from your library search

Overview of sources

Digital learning platforms have been shown to influence student engagement and academic performance at the university level through several interconnected mechanisms. Engagement with these platforms, including tools such as Moodle, Microsoft Teams, and Zoom, tends to enhance students' self-directed learning habits and academic outcomes. Students who actively use these e-learning tools report improved connectivity and accessibility, which positively affects their motivation and performance, particularly when they possess prior computer literacy or study emerging technologies. ²

Behavioral engagement, measured through interaction logs and time spent on digital platforms, correlates positively with academic achievement. For example, in an online programming course, specific behaviors such as video watching and self-assessment activities were significant predictors of final grades, indicating that certain types of engagement within digital platforms are more influential than others. ⁴ This suggests that the design of digital learning environments, including the integration of interactive content and self-assessment systems, plays a role in fostering effective engagement and improving performance.

Overall, digital learning platforms contribute to improved academic performance primarily through increased student engagement, facilitated by accessibility, interactive content, and self-assessment opportunities. Nonetheless, challenges such as varying digital literacy, differences among student populations, and assessment integrity issues require attention to optimize these platforms' educational impact. ^{2 3 4 5}

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Related research questions

- ? What is the impact of digital learning tools on student motivation and academic outcomes in higher education?
- ? How do online educational platforms affect student participation and learning effectiveness at universities?

⚙️ Ask your next research question →

From here you can do a few things:

- **Explore the individual sources**
Click on the tile for the source to see more details, including an abstract and options to access the full-text.
- **Read the overview**
This can help you understand the topic.
It also has links to the sources where the information is drawn from so you can read the source yourself.

- Follow the links to the references within the overview**
This is an important step! The overview only draws from the abstract of the source and may miss crucial information or misrepresent the original text of the source.
 Click on the number within the overview - this will open the details of the source, which includes options to access the full source for you to read.
- Tell Primo Research Assistant to try again**
 If the results or overview do not quite match what you want or if you want to see what else Primo Research Assistant can come up with, click on the 'Try again' button under the overview. This will re-run your request to find other sources and generate a new overview.
- Explore related research questions**
 Primo Research Assistant lists a few other questions that relate to your topic. This can help you identify related issues or topics.
 Click on any of these that look interesting - the question will automatically appear in the 'Ask your next research question' box (at the bottom of the screen).
- Find more sources provided by the Library**
 Click on 'View more results from your library search' (to the right of the list of sources). This takes you to findit@flinders where you can see all the sources that match your question. You can also **filter the results to find specific resource types** (e.g. articles, book chapters, news articles, videos, reports and more).
- Get ideas for search terms to use when searching other library databases**
 When you click on 'View more results from your library search', you will see the search query that Primo Research Assistant constructed. This can give you ideas for the concepts and synonyms you can use as search terms in databases that do not understand natural language.
- Start again**
 If the results and overview and related research question are not useful, you may need to reword or adjust your query.
 View more results from findit@flinders

