Transcript: Google for academic research – A brief word on Google Scholar

This session is not really about Google Scholar as that searches for journal articles mainly, and we offer other workshops about searching for that sort of key academic literature.

But, a brief note to explain that as well as the focus on what Google classes as 'academic literature', the main difference from ordinary Google is that Google cannot search behind paywalls, whereas Google Scholar has made deals with publishers to let it search their full text.

Ordinary Google does not use the publishers' metadata, whereas Scholar does.

Google Scholar provides a very similar service to SOLO's Articles search and much of the content is the same. The Bodleian Libraries subscribe to a curated service (Primo) bringing together content from many publishers and databases. Google Scholar gathers its content from many of the same publishers in an automated way using search algorithms. The Bodleian Libraries also supplement the index with additional local content (e.g. online articles received via legal deposit, items from the Oxford Research Archive) to create SOLO's Article search.

Scholar is particularly useful to those without access via a university library so is great for practitioners and members of the public with research interests.

Whilst you are here at the University with us I strongly encourage you to make the most of SOLO and the integrated subscription sources which we in the Bodleian Libraries pay a lot of money for on your behalf.