Linking to Articles and eBooks in Library Databases

Linking to articles and eBooks in library databases is not as simple as copying and pasting the URL in your browser’s address box into a Moodle shell, email message, or some other document because

- many times the URL in the browser’s address box ceases to exist when you end your search session
  - you need a durable, persistent link
- that URL does not include information telling the computer that someone affiliated with Friends University needs to be prompted to input his/her username and password for authentication as a legitimate user of the database
  - you need a link that will go to the Library’s proxy system before the computer system of the database.

For links to work for all students, especially those students who are not using computers on the University’s computer network, as well as other Friends University recipients, you must go through a couple of steps to get a durable, persistent link with the library's proxy prefix.

**Best practices:**

1. Always include the citation (author, title, year, and so forth) for the article or eBook with the link.
2. Always check the link you insert by testing it on a computer that is not on the University’s computer network to make sure that when you click on the link, the pop-up box that asks for “your Friends University username & password” appears.

This is what the pop-box looks like:

![Pop-up box for Friends University login](image_url)

**Steps for Getting a Durable, Persistent Link with the Library’s Proxy Prefix**

For all ProQuest databases, including those that do not have ProQuest in their titles – for instance, ABI/INFORM and PsycARTICLES (APA):

Once you have found an article in a ProQuest database that you would like someone affiliated with Friends University to link to, click on the “Citation/Abstract” link.
Scroll toward the bottom of the “Citation/Abstract” screen until you see the header “Document URL” on the left side.

This “Document URL” (be sure to copy and paste all the lines!) is a persistent, durable link – that means it will work every time. It includes the Friends University proxy information which directs the computer to prompt the user to input his/her Friends University username and password.

For information on links to articles found in other search services besides ProQuest and in the ebrary Academic Complete Database of eBooks, please contact the Library at 316-295-5880 or askmax@friends.edu.

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