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Information Interface - Volume 29, Issue 4 - August/September 2001

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Information Interface

Office of Educational Resources
 School of Medicine and Health Care Sciences
 School of Public Health and Health Services

August/September 2001

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Director's Desk

Welcome Address!

On behalf of the entire Himmelfarb Library staff, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all new Medical Center faculty, staff, and students. I would also like to extend greetings to all returning faculty and students on the start of a new academic year. The Library staff looks forward to meeting your information needs in the upcoming months. We also welcome your input! You may contact me at 202-994-1826 or mlbaml@gwumc.edu. The Library's e-mail address is himmelfarb@gwu.edu. The telephone number for the reference desk is 202-994-2850.

The new academic year is starting on a positive note in the Library. We are happy to welcome several new staff members including Christine Raney, Serials Librarian, and Michael Acadia, Electronic Resources Librarian/Web Coordinator. Yvonne Lee, whom many of you know as our Evening Reference Specialist, has moved to a full-time day position. With the addition of these individuals to our skilled staff, the Library is truly ready to move forward into the electronic age. During the summer, over 400 journal titles have been added to the Library home page (www.gwumc.edu/library/eresources/ejournal.cfm), providing access to 534 electronic journals from your office and the Library. More titles will be added monthly.

The last year has seen a growing use of online course materials within the Medical Center. The complete set of pathology slides for second-year medical students is now available from the Library's home page. Students may also review all of the major body systems from an histological viewpoint online in the Computer Lab. Over 225 e-reserves have been processed by Library staff for use within Prometheus. (For questions about electronic reserves, contact Natalie Collins, Head, Cataloging at mlbnmc@gwumc.edu) Coming soon to our Computer Lab is the Authoring Station. Designed to assist faculty in preparing online course materials and electronic publishing projects, the workstation features a wide variety of software and hardware for scanning, creating digital images, and merging print/video/digital formats. (For questions about computer instructional materials, contact Alexandra Gomes, Instructional Technology Librarian, at mlbawg@gwumc.edu).



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Himmelfarb Library's Food Policy

The Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library, as one of the most student-friendly libraries in the country, allows food and drink in the library under the following guidelines which are strictly enforced:

1. Effective August 17, 1999, drinks are allowed in the Library ONLY in one of two container types: A) thermal mugs such as the official Himmelfarb Sip and Study Mug or B) bottles with a pop-up closure. You will be asked to remove all other types of beverage containers from the Library. Please cooperate with Library staff. Individualized negotiations regarding acceptable versus not acceptable containers became too contentious to manage. Mugs are available for purchase at the Circulation desk for a reasonable fee. You may also stop by the Circulation desk for a free sticker with the Himmelfarb logo to affix to your thermal mug or approved water bottle. A poster featuring approved mugs and bottles is available for your review at the Circulation desk.
2. Food is allowed in modest quantities (e.g. sandwiches or snacks). Users are asked to clean-up and place wrappers in trash baskets. No food deliveries are allowed.
3. No food or drink is allowed near any equipment or computer workstation. This means no food or drink in the Bloedorn AV Study Center or Microcomputer Lab or around the PCs on the first floor of the Library.
4. Students who do not comply with these regulations will be directed to the Dean's Office (SMHHS or MISPH as appropriate) to explain their inability to follow posted regulations.

Shelley A. Bader, Ed.D.
Associate Vice President,
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The Reference Desk is Your Link to Information

The Reference Desk provides an array of services to the students, staff, and faculty of GWUMC, as well as the general public. These include: individual instruction on using informational resources, such as electronic journals or databases; group instruction on a variety of topics, such as searching MEDLINE, using various computer programs, or accessing electronic resources; and suggestions on locating the best sources for information. The reference librarians regularly provide curriculum support for various classes within the Medical Center. Personal consultation services by Himmelfarb librarians assist students with research on projects and papers at no charge. Online Search Services can be provided to staff and faculty for a small fee by completing the appropriate form. The librarians will also assist users in finding requested resources not available at Himmelfarb in other libraries throughout the metropolitan area.

The Reference Desk is staffed:

Monday-Thursday 8:30 AM - 8:00 PM

Friday 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Saturday 12:00 Noon - 4:00 PM

The telephone number for the reference desk is 994-2850. GWUMC users may also request services through the library e-mail services at himmelfarb@gwu.edu. E-mail will be answered on the next business day.



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The Bloedorn AV Study Center, Microcomputer Lab, the Women's Board Teaching Center, and Classroom Display Services

The **Bloedorn Audiovisual Study Center (BAVSC)** is located on the third floor of Himmelfarb Library for the use of Medical Center students, faculty and staff. A valid GWorld ID card is required for all loan transactions.

The BAVSC contains more than 1500 videotapes, slide/tape programs, audio CD, CD-ROM and interactive videodisc programs in the basic sciences and clinical medicine. An extensive audiotape collection is also available, including the Audio Digest Journal. A variety of anatomical models are available for use in the Study Center. The BAVSC also provides study rooms and carrels equipped with PC's, slide projectors, audiotape players, and/or videotape players. The Library's group study rooms may be reserved through the BAVSC.

The **Microcomputer Lab** and the **Women's Board Teaching Center** are located in the AV Study Center and are for use by residents, staff, faculty, and students of the Medical Center. The Labs contain PC workstations. Programs available for use include the Microsoft Office Suite and an extensive collection of Computer-Assisted Instruction (CAI). Software is loaded on our Local Area Network (LAN). Additional programs are available in CD-ROM format. Microcomputer hardware and software do not circulate. Orientations to the Microlab are available; no registration is necessary. For further information, call (202) 994-2856.

Classroom Display Services are coordinated by the Bloedorn Audiovisual Study Center on the third floor of the Himmelfarb Library. A full-time technician and a part-time evening technician provide audiovisual projection equipment and services throughout Ross Hall classrooms and conference rooms, weekdays between 7:30am and 8:00pm. Arrangements for weekend equipment must be made in advance. At least 48 hours notice is required to ensure equipment availability. A variety of equipment is available for loan and must be picked up and returned by the borrower at the Audiovisual Study Center Circulation Desk, third floor, Himmelfarb Library. A valid GWorld ID card is required for all equipment loan transactions. There is no charge for equipment loan services. Audio and video duplication services are provided for a fee. A departmental fund and account number are required for all of these services. Services are restricted to Medical Center affiliates. For further information, call (202) 994-2856.



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The Library's Circulation Services and Policies

The Circulation Department at Himmelfarb Library is responsible for the circulation of monograph, journal and reserve materials. In addition, the Department offers a photo-copy service for materials held in Himmelfarb Library and maintains the self-service copiers on the 1st Floor. These copiers are functional with GWorld personal or departmental cards at the rate of \$0.09 per copy. Problems regarding GWorld cards should be reported to GWorld office in Marvin Center Suite 501 or at 202-994-1795. Audiovisual materials may be borrowed at the AV Study Center located on the 3rd Floor of Himmelfarb Library.

Faculty, staff and students of The George Washington University may borrow materials. Your George Washington ID serves as a library card once you register at the Circulation desk. Currently, monographs are loaned for 3 weeks while reserve material and current 5 years journals circulate for 3 hours. Monographs can be renewed twice either in person or over the phone as long as there is not a hold on that item and the your record is in good standing (call 202-994-2962). Journals and reserve materials cannot be renewed. Overdue fines are \$0.25 per day for monographs and \$1.00 per hour for current journals and reserve material. For journals older than 5 years and monographic series, the fine is \$1.00 per day. The maximum fine for an item is \$25.00.

The Circulation Department is also charged with enforcing Himmelfarb Library's Access Policy. The Library's primary mission is to serve the faculty, staff and students of the George Washington University Medical Center. Due to limited space and study facilities, GW University library users not affiliated with the Medical Center may not use the Library after 6 pm on weekdays or on weekends. Please be prepared to show your GW ID when entering the library after 2:00 pm on weekdays and on weekends.



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New Staff Members

The Himmelfarb Library welcomes Tina Raney as the Serials Librarian, Leah Pellegrino as the Electronic Resources Librarian and Michael Acadia as the Web Coordinator.

Tina received her Master of Science in Library Science from Catholic University. She has substantial experience in technical services in law libraries.

Leah received her Master of Science in Library Science from Catholic University. Most recently she has been a reference librarian at Georgetown University's medical library. She has worked at other academic libraries and at the Environmental Protection Agency.

Michael Acadia received his Masters of Library Sciences from the University of Buffalo. He has experience from various libraries in web design and reference. We welcome these new librarians to the staff.

Just one more change Yvonne Lee is currently the Evening/Weekend Reference Specialist at Himmelfarb. Starting September she will work during the day in the Technical Services Department. However, Yvonne will continue to assist at the Reference Desk



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Sorting Out the New England Journal of Medicine Full-Text

The *New England Journal of Medicine* (NEJM) has made significant changes to a user's ability to access the full text of their journal. The access options now available are outlined below.

According to the New England Journal's web site, "registration for the e-mailed table of contents and back issue full text is always free." (http://secure.mms.org/custserv_signin.asp?productcode=toc) What this actually means is that the everyone has free access to original and special articles beginning six months after publication. Table of Contents by e-mail is offered as each current issue is published. For non-subscribers, a brief, one-time registration is required before accessing the 6 month old articles and to receive the e-mailed tables of content.

Non-subscribers to the print journal will no longer have free access to editorials, Sounding Board articles, and letters to the editor. These articles will be available for a fee. Non-subscribers do have the option to purchase access to the site for 24 hours. See the above URL for more information.

Subscribers to the print journal are entitled to the complete journal online. A separate registration method is used. Subscribers first enter their subscription number and last name. This information is printed on the address label. If your subscriber number is seven or nine digits in length, enter zeroes at the beginning to make your subscriber number twelve digits in length. Choose a user name and password to complete your registration.

The Himmelfarb Library (<http://www.gwumc.edu/library>) offers full-text access to the complete *New England Journal of Medicine* (NEJM) through our subscription to OVID. Access is obtained either through our E-Journals page or through an OVID MEDLINE search. The E-Journals page is the easiest way to obtain full-text of an article for which you have complete information. A MEDLINE searcher finds a link to full-text articles directly from the citation list retrieved by the search. These links include letters, comments and editorials. While there is some delay (usually 7-10 days) in OVID'S posting of NEJM, it is less than the six months delay on the journal's web site and OVID is not limited to original and special articles. The current week's issue may not be available until the following week. The advantage to both NEJM subscribers and non-subscribers is the link from your OVID MEDLINE search directly to the NEJM's full-text.



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Electronic Version of The Medical Letter

Unfortunately, due to difficulties with the publisher, Clinical Textbook (Stat-Ref) one of our vendors for electronic full text resources, is no longer able to provide access to *The Medical Letter on Drugs and Therapeutics*. The Himmelfarb librarians understand that this is a very popular resource and we hope that it will become available electronically once again. In the meantime, the library continues to subscribe to the print version of *The Medical Letter*.



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Annual Booksale!

On August 30 and August 31, 2001 The Himmelfarb Library's Annual Book sale will be held in the Levine Lounge. The book sale presents a great opportunity to supplement your collection with reference materials and textbooks which have been withdrawn from the Library's collection. Prices range from \$.50 to several dollars on the first day of the sale. On August 31, all materials are free. Please contact George Paul at 202-994-3682 with any questions.



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Frequently Asked Questions

Q: is it OK to leave my stuff in this carrel/in this room/by my computer while I run out for a minute?

A: NO! NO! NO! Please do not assume that your belongings will be safe, *even for a minute!* Numerous incident have proved that asumption false.

Q: Do I check out AV material up here or at the 1st floor Circulation Desk?

A: All materials housed in the AV Study Center are checked out at the AV Circulation Desk. It is recommended that these materials also be returned *directly* to the AV Study Center for check-in.

Q: Can I access the AV network from home?

A: The programs available at the computers in the AV Study Center and Computer Lab are not available for remote access. In addition to technical issues that make this currently unworkable, copyright laws prohibit outside access to most of our programs.

Q: Can I copy software to use at home?

A: While most of our software is copyright-protected, certain software programs are available for copying. Check with the AV Study Center staff to find out which programs may be copied.



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Overview of Database Resources

When you need medical information, you probably instinctively head for a computer and access the Himmelfarb Library homepage (<http://www.gwumc.edu/library>). From there, you may go a bit farther and access the Databases/MEDLINE page using the menu on the left-hand side of the screen. At that point though, confusion can set in:

- > Which database should I use?
- > How do I search it?
- > What will the results look like?

If you have any questions about searching or finding information, you should talk to the librarians at the Reference Desk. They are familiar with the databases available, search strategies, and methods for narrowing your search to the most relevant information. Plus, they are eager to help you! If you are not in the Library, you can also call in 202-994-2850 or send an e-mail (himmelfarb@gwu.edu). The Reference Desk is staffed from 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Fridays. Saturday hours are 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m.

The Himmelfarb Library also offers one-hour classes to teach students, faculty, and staff to use information resources. These classes are free and do not require registration. Check the Library homepage for Tutorials & Instruction, or go straight to the [Continuing Education Course Schedule](#).

The following annotated list of databases should give you an idea of the breadth and format of information available.

Allied and Alternative Medicine (Silver Platter) - periodical literature index covering fields allied to medicine and alternatives to conventional medicine including acupuncture, homeopathy, palliative care, Chinese medicine, hospice care, physiotherapy, chiropractics, hypnosis, podiatry, herbalism, occupational therapy, rehabilitation, holistic treatments, and osteopathy. Coverage: 1985 - Present. Produced by the Health Care Information Service of the British Library.

CANCERLIT (Ovid) - periodical literature index on all aspects of experimental and clinical cancer therapy, screening and detection, prevention, and genetics; including chemical, viral and other cancer causing agents; mechanisms of carcinogenesis; biochemistry, immunology, and physiology of cancer; and mutagen and growth factor studies. Coverage: 1983 - Present. Produced by the National Cancer Institute.

CINAHL (Ovid) - the Cumulative Index to Nursing & Allied Health database provides authoritative coverage of the literature related to nursing and allied health. Coverage: 1982-Present.

Clinical Textbooks (STAT!Ref) - searchable database containing sixteen full-text medical

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textbooks including drug reference sources and specialty texts on current diagnosis and treatment.

Cochrane Library - regularly updated reviews of the effects of health care, critical assessments and structured abstracts of good systematic reviews published elsewhere, bibliographic information on controlled trials, information on the science of reviewing research and evidence-based health care. Coverage: current. Produced by the Cochrane Collaboration.

DARE (Thru Ovid) - The Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effectiveness (DARE) is a Full Text database containing critical assessments of systematic reviews from a variety of medical journals. DARE is produced by the expert reviewers and information staff of the National Health Services' Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (NHS CRD) at the University of York, England, and consists of structured abstracts of systematic reviews from all over the world. DARE records cover topics such as diagnosis, prevention, rehabilitation, screening, and treatment.

DXPlain - a clinical diagnostic decision-support system that contains probabilities of clinical manifestation associated with different diseases. Produced by the Massachusetts General Hospital.

EBM Reviews: ACP Journal (Ovid) - enhanced abstracts and commentary of studies published in top clinical journals. Coverage: 1991 - Present. Produced by the American College of Physicians.

EBM Reviews: Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (Ovid) - full-text of the regularly updated systematic reviews of the effects of healthcare prepared by The Cochrane Collaboration. Coverage: current. Produced by the Cochrane Collaboration.

Harrison's Online - online version of Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine with additional features including recent clinical trial data, links to related web sites, and self-assessment questions. Produced by McGraw-Hill.

HealthSTAR (Ovid) - index of published literature on health services, technology, administration, and research including the evaluation of patient outcomes; effectiveness of procedures, programs, products, services and processes; administration and planning of health facilities, services and manpower; health insurance; health policy; health services research; health economics and financial management; laws and regulations; personnel administration; quality assurance; licensure; and accreditation. Coverage: 1975 - Present. Produced by the National Library of Medicine and the American Hospital Association

MDConsult - clinical medical information that includes full-text journal articles and clinics, reference books, clinical practice guidelines, drug information, and customizable patient education handouts.

MEDLINE (Ovid) - index encompasses information from Index Medicus, Index to Dental Literature, and International Nursing, as well as other sources of coverage in the areas of allied health, biological and physical sciences, humanities and information science as they relate to medicine and health care, communication disorders, population biology, and reproductive biology. Citations/abstracts of periodical literature plus selected full-text. Coverage: 1966 - Present. Produced by the National Library of Medicine.

MEDLINEplus - provides access through web links to extensive information about specific diseases and conditions, consumer health information from the National Institutes of Health, clearinghouses, dictionaries, lists of hospitals and physicians, health information in Spanish and other languages, and clinical trials. Coverage: current. Produced by the National Library of Medicine.

Merck Manual of Diagnosis and Therapy - medical reference resource for clinicians that provide descriptions of diseases and disorders for clinicians. Produced by Merck.

NARIC Disability Databases - disability and rehabilitation information including indexes to published literature (1956 - Present), brochures, newsletters, and conference papers; a

directory of projects funded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research literature; and, a database of general disability resources including Internet sites, journals, magazines, newsletters, organizations, and reference publications. Coverage: varies by database. Produced by the National Rehabilitation Information Center.

OSH-ROM (Silver Platter) - indexes pertaining to occupational health and safety, and environmental medicine. Coverage varies by database. Produced by SilverPlatter's Health and Safety Publishing group.

PDQ - contains peer-reviewed summaries on cancer treatment, screening, prevention genetics, and supportive care; a registry of approximately 1,800 open and 10,300 closed cancer clinical trials from around the world; and directories of physicians, professionals who provide genetics services, and organizations that provide cancer care. Coverage: current. Produced by the National Cancer Institute.

POPLINE - international index of periodical literature on population, family planning, and related health issues. Coverage: 1970 - Present (some sources date from 1827). Produced by the Population Information Program, Center for Communication Programs, Johns Hopkins University.

PsycINFO (Ovid) - periodical index of professional and academic literature in psychology and related disciplines including medicine, psychiatry, nursing, sociology, education, pharmacology, physiology, linguistics, and other areas. Coverage: 1887 - Present. Produced by the American Psychological Association.

PubMed - free access to MEDLINE. Coverage: 1966 - present. Provided by the National Library of Medicine.

Scientific American Medicine Online - medical textbook covering all 15 subspecialties of internal medicine. Produced by Scientific American.

SPORTDiscus (Ovid) - serial and monographic literature in recreation, exercise physiology, sports medicine, coaching, physical fitness, the psychology, history and sociology of sport, training, and conditioning. Coverage: 1949 - Present. Produced by the Sport Information Resource Centre.

TOXNET - a cluster of databases on toxicology, hazardous chemicals, and related areas, including HSDB, IRIS, CCRIS, GENE-TOX, TOXLINE, EMIC, DART/ETIC, TRI, ChemIDplus, HSDB Structures, and NCI-3D. Coverage: varies by database. Produced by the National Library of Medicine.



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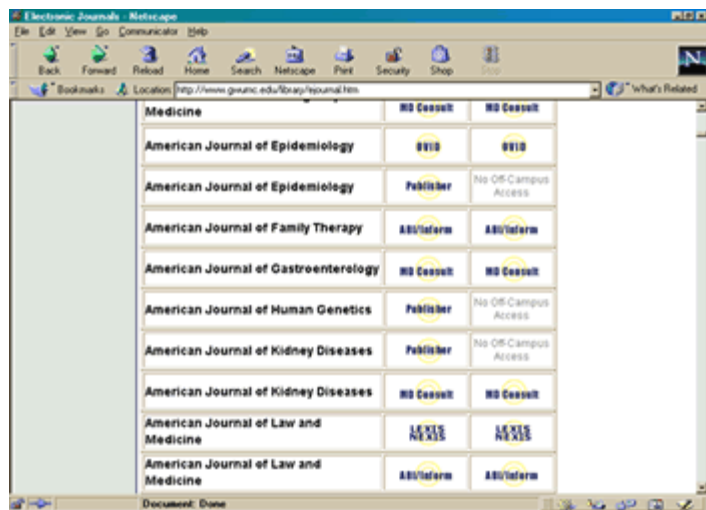
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Savvy Searcher

Electronic Journals

This past spring, Himmelfarb Library rapidly expanded its access to electronic journals. While the former collection of electronic journals hovered around 100, Himmelfarb Library now offers access to over 500 journals in a full-text electronic format. All of these journals are available from the E-Journals page, which is linked from the main menu on the library website. All journal listed on the E-Journals page are available full-text online. ACCESS POINTS - The new collection of electronic journals provides a variety of access points for individual titles. Titles continue to be available from publisher websites, as well as through database vendors such as Ovid. Additional titles are available through databases such as MDCConsult, ABI/INFORM, and LEXIS/NEXIS. For each journal, on-campus access is indicated in the first column and off-campus access is indicated in the second column.








MULTIPLE ACCESS POINTS - Some electronic journals have multiple access points. As you see in the page image above, the American Journal of Epidemiology, the American Journal of Kidney Diseases, and the American Journal of Law and Medicine are all available via multiple access points. As you gain familiarity with electronic journals, you may find that you prefer one access point over another. For example, Publisher and ABI/INFORM access points are more likely to provide the article in PDF format so that it looks like the actual journal pages, while Ovid or MDCConsult may provide additional years of back issues. In general however, all access points will provide full-text and images from the journals.

FINDING AN ARTICLE -- Some access points (Publisher and Ovid) link to a website that contains a list of available issues for that particular journal. Other access points

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(MDConsult, ABI/INFORM, and LEXIS/NEXIS) link to databases, but you must search for the particular article that you want within that database. While this isn't the seamless access we want to provide, we thought that our users would value knowing where to find the full-text of journals even if it required some additional mouse clicks on their part. Complete instructions for locating electronic journals via the various access points are available at the bottom of the E-Journals webpage under "Key Code." In general, all off-campus links except 'Publisher' (seen in the second column above) require that users log into Aladin using their Social Security Number in order to access the appropriate database.

Key Code	
	Link works from any location on or off campus but you must login to Aladin from remote locations using student identification number or social security number. From Aladin, select ABI/Inform from the Alphabetical List of databases or the Business/Management List of databases. Select to search "by Publication" to access a list of issues for a particular journal.
	Link works from any location on or off campus but you must login to Aladin from remote locations using student identification number or social security number. From Aladin, select LEXIS/NEXIS Academic Universe from the Alphabetical List of databases or the General/Multidisciplinary List of databases. Select the Medical section, then select the Medical Journals area. Search for a specific article using the journal name and title words.
	Link works from any location on or off campus but you must have an MDConsult account. MDConsult accounts are available to all GWUMC students, faculty, and staff; ask for assistance obtaining an account at the Himmelfarb Library Reference Desk.
	Link works from any location on or off campus but you must login to Aladin from remote locations using student identification number or social security number. From Aladin, select Journals@Ovid database.
	Available from the publisher's website.

BACK ISSUES - In deciding which journals to include on the E-Journals page, we made an effort to be sure that not only current issues of each journal are available, but also several years of back issues. Because of the variety of access points, there's no hard rule for how many years of back issues are available for a particular journal. Some provide access back to the early 1990's, while others provide access beginning in 1998. In general, the coverage for most electronic journals begins at about 1995. **TROUBLESHOOTING** - If you have any difficulty accessing the titles available from the E-Journals page, don't hesitate to contact us. You can telephone Himmelfarb Library's Reference Desk at (202) 994-2850 or send an email to himmelfarb@gwu.edu.



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