Types of resource:
First, know what kind of information you will find in different types of sources:
- **Books**: Broad overviews; detailed; edited, may be peer-reviewed (especially if published by academic presses)
- **Journal Articles**: Usually narrow focus; may be peer reviewed
- **Encyclopedias**: Broad overviews; succinct. Good for background and bibliographies but not typically suitable for citation in an academic paper.
- **Dissertations & theses**: Broad or narrow; may be unique; reviewed by the student’s dissertation/thesis committee

Where to find resources:
Linguistics resources can be found using resources available through the UW Libraries, as well as through open-access resources online.

- To find **books**, the best resource is the UW Libraries Search on the UW Libraries homepage. Some books and individual book chapters can also be found in databases.

For access to **journal articles**, **encyclopedias**, **dissertations**, etc. start with UW Libraries’ Linguistics Research Guide at

[http://guides.lib.washington.edu/linguistics](http://guides.lib.washington.edu/linguistics)

- **Articles**: Databases listed on the “Find Articles” tab, especially *Linguistics & Language Behavior Abstracts (LLBA)* and *MLA International Bibliography (MLAIB)*. UW Libraries Search is not good for locating articles because many journals’ articles are not individually indexed in the library catalog.
- **Encyclopedias**: The “Encyclopedias/Dictionaries” tab links to many electronic encyclopedias; *Encyclopedia of Language and Linguistics* has articles on many world languages. Find print encyclopedias in the UW Libraries Search.
- **Dissertations & theses**: The database ProQuest Dissertations & Theses (PQDT) Global, on the “Dissertations, working papers, etc.” tab

Resources can be identified, though not usually accessed, through online resources like these Google Scholar, WALS Online, etc. Use these to find books/articles that you can then look up in the library catalog or databases to access.

- **WALS Online** ([wals.info](http://wals.info)) is a database of languages’ structural properties, including phonology. Sources are listed for each language. Good bibliographies by language.
- **Google Scholar** ([scholar.google.com](http://scholar.google.com)) is a good resource for finding sources that may not show up in the usual academic sources; it’s useful when you need to cast a wider net in your search. Unlike regular Google search, it searches academic literature. Since it is
a general database and not linguistics-specific like LLBA or MLAIB, searches can return a lot of irrelevant material so it can be more difficult to do a precision search. Use the unique “Cited by” feature to find more recent sources that cited the source you’re looking at.

How to get them:

- **Print materials (books, journal volumes):** Request through UW Libraries Search
  - “Availability & request options”
  - “UW Libraries users log in for all request options”
  - “Request UW item” or “Request via Summit (about 3-5 days)”
  - Select pickup location and click “Request”

- **E-books:** Access through the UW Libraries Search
  - “Access options”
  - Click link next to “Content available”. Note that there may be multiple links since we may have the material available through more than one of our content packages.

- **Electronic articles, theses, dissertations (when searching UW databases):**
  - If PDF icon appears in search results, click it
  - If PDF icon does NOT appear, click “Check for Full Text”
    - If “Content available” link appears, click it
    - Otherwise, click “Request this item” and the library can get a copy for you in a few days (usually)

**Tips:**

- **Start early!** Make sure there are materials on your language now; if it is more obscure, it can take time to get the materials on it.

- **If you are getting a lot of non-linguistic materials,** add “language” to your search (e.g. “French language” instead of just “French”)

- **Search multiple databases at once!** In a ProQuest database, click where it says “Searching: 1 database”. Then select others to search all at once (I recommend searching LLBA and MLA at the same time, and maybe PQDT as well)

- **Use the truncation tool (*) in many databases:** phon* will find phonology, phonological, phonetics, phonetic, phonosyntactics, etc.

- **If there are no general materials on the phonetics/phonology of your language,** look for grammars (reference grammars, comprehensive grammars, etc.) or sketches.

- **Use bibliographies!** Bibliographies in encyclopedias, books, journals are great for pointing to other relevant works. Online bibliographies or reference lists like those in WALS Online, OLAC, Glottolog, etc. may have good language-specific bibliographies as well.

- **Still need help? Contact me!** I am easiest to reach by email at dcman@uw.edu but you can also drop by my office (Suzzallo 139) or give me a call at 206-685-1446.