Database Overview

Go to www.bmats.edu/library.htm
Select “Journal Databases and Books”
On-Line Journals / Databases

- **EBSCO Host**
  
  A worldwide full-text journal databases aggregator of more than 300 databases. It contains more than 1.7 million bibliographic records covering the research literature of religion in over 60 languages, more than 570,000 article citations from 1,677 journals (546 currently indexed), more than 237,000 essay citations from over 16,800 multi-author works, and more than 525,000 book review citations. It is now available to BMA Seminary students and faculty. An authorization code and password needed to use EBSCO Host may be obtained in person at the circulation desk in the library (Library Identification card must be presented) or email for permission at jblaylock@bmats.edu.

  Some of the databases in FirstSearch include:
  - **ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials** Combines the premier index to journal articles, book reviews, and collections of essays in all fields of religion with ATLA’s online collection of major religion and theology journals.
  - **ATLA Religion Database** Provides information on topics such as biblical studies, world religions, church history, and religion in social issues.

- **OCLC First Search**
  
  A group of over 70 databases and more than 1.5 million full-text articles available to BMA Seminary students and faculty. An authorization code and password needed to use FirstSearch may be obtained in person at the circulation desk in the library (Library Identification card must be presented) or email for permission at jblaylock@bmats.edu.

  Some of the databases in FirstSearch include:
  - **ArticleFirst** Index of contents of nearly 12,500 journals.
  - **ATLA Group Catalog** American Theological Library Association Group Catalog of OCLC holdings
  - **Books in Print** Provides complete, publisher-verified information on all U.S. books in print
  - **Ebooks** Electronic list of records
  - **ECO** An OCLC collection of scholarly journals
  - **ERIC** Journal articles and reports in education
  - **MEDLINE** Abstracted articles from medical journals
  - **Wilson Select Plus** Full text articles in science, humanities, education and business
  - **WorldCat** Books and other materials in 23,000 libraries worldwide
Database Overview

- **Research In Ministry (RIM)**
  
  This database indexes and abstracts project reports and theses from over 50 Doctor of Ministry programs accredited by the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada. No authorization code and password needed.

- **TexShare Databases**
  
  A component of the Library of Texas program, are commercial database subscriptions that are paid for by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) and the Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund Board for use by participating Texas public libraries, Texas State governmental agency libraries, and Texas academic libraries. The service includes articles, citations, book records, business directories, telephone numbers, Internet links, maps, and much more. Topics include art, business, current affairs, economics, health, literature, religion, psychology, science, etc. These commercial database products contain large amounts of information organized especially for rapid search and retrieval from your computer. They are licensed to the Texas State Library and Archives Commission for use by more than 500 libraries and their patrons in Texas. 60 database products are available for your research, homework and general information needs. (Library Identification card must be presented) or email for permission at jblaylock@bmats.edu.

- **CETRR Religion and Technology Center**

- **Full Text Electric Journals** at David Allan Hubbard Library

- **Serials in Cyberspace Collections**, resources and services (search for "serials in cyberspace" under search) **Highly Recommended**

- **FindArticles.com** A web resource that can be searched for full-text articles in more than 300

- **LibDex** Library homepages, web-based OPACs, Friends of the Library pages, and library e-commerce affiliate links.
EBSCO Host

- EBSCO Host is primarily used by students to access the ATLA Serials or ATLA Religion Database for Theology and Biblical Studies related information.

- There are two ways to use EBSCO Host:
  - Searching for Periodical Citations
  - Searching for Full-Text Articles

- When searching for citations, you will have to use the citation to find the article in the library periodicals.
Searching Tips

- Using the “AND” operator:
  String several search terms together to define your search and reduce the number of results.

- Using the “OR” operator:
  Broaden a search by linking terms together using “OR”. Using this, your search terms are searched independently and simultaneously.

- Using the “NOT” operator:
  Linking your search terms by “NOT” will filter out topics that you do not want to search for.

- Using Parentheses:
  If you place search terms in parentheses, the terms in parentheses from left-to-right will be searched first.

- For more help, please view the extensive “Help” section on the EBSCO Host Website.
Once FirstSearch opens, click the check mark for a drop-down list of 9 databases, and choose a database.

Choose ATLA Group Catalog for books on Religion

Type in your search term. When typing in the subject “garden of Eden” there are 593 hits for titles. Selecting one, you might see that the book is available in 41 ATLA libraries and 1770 libraries worldwide.

Select the 41 libraries to see which theological library near you has the book in question.
WorldCat and Texshare

- Worldcat may be searched much like OCLC FirstSearch, only, this service searches all libraries, not just seminary libraries.
- Tex-Share has various features, including an alternate route to the EBSCO databases.