

# Finding unpublished doctoral theses

## Transcript

### Document delivery

If you are in your final year and working on an independent/individual study or dissertation, you will be expected to do a much wider literature search than you have done previously. Where before you might have limited yourself to what was available in the library or online, you will now need to track down anything relevant – whether published or unpublished – and if CCCU doesn't have it you will need to make a document delivery request for it. For more information on our document delivery service go to:

<https://www.canterbury.ac.uk/students/current-students/library/document-delivery.aspx>

For step-by-step instructions on how to submit a document delivery request go to:

[https://cccu-my.sharepoint.com/:p:/g/personal/ld1\\_canterbury\\_ac\\_uk/ERDAyRlvgMVNuibYG6\\_2id8Bp52tDG2nH7Uc-yNfi9B9Cw](https://cccu-my.sharepoint.com/:p:/g/personal/ld1_canterbury_ac_uk/ERDAyRlvgMVNuibYG6_2id8Bp52tDG2nH7Uc-yNfi9B9Cw)

### Dissertations and theses

Besides books and journals, a very useful source of research is the doctoral dissertation, or thesis. These are unpublished but are often stored online in the research repository or e-prints collection of the institution where the student completed their PhD. There are two subscribed databases you can use to track these down; EThOS and Open Dissertations.

### EThOS

EThOS is the British Library's electronic theses online service and you can access it via the Find Databases A-Z link. You can use it to search for over 500,000 UK doctoral theses. Many of these are available for immediate download at their holding institution via the link EThOS provides. For those not available in this way, in many cases you can request a scanned copy via EThOS. To do this you first need to register with EThOS and log-in (registration is free). If you find details of a thesis you cannot download by either of the above methods, you can still request a copy via document delivery.

### Open Dissertations

You can use Open Dissertations (via Find Databases) to locate graduate research from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century to the present. Its coverage includes the UK but also select colleges and universities from around the world. You can either use the Advanced Search option, or, enter your search terms – or a Boolean search string- in the basic Search box.