

How to find and use open-access (free) theological journals online

10 June 2021



Locating peer-reviewed journals and other bibliographical and electronic resources with an emphasis on open access.

Terms to Know

- **Open access**— free full text available
- **Full text**— the complete article
- **Abstract**— summery of the main point of the article, usually found at the beginning of the article
- **Key words**— subjects discussed in an article, sometimes found with the abstract
- **Database**— A collection of information that is commonly used for research and writing, including access to academic journals.* Journal databases may be searched by subject and author and sometimes by journal titles

*Your dictionary <http://www.yourdictionary.com/academic-database>

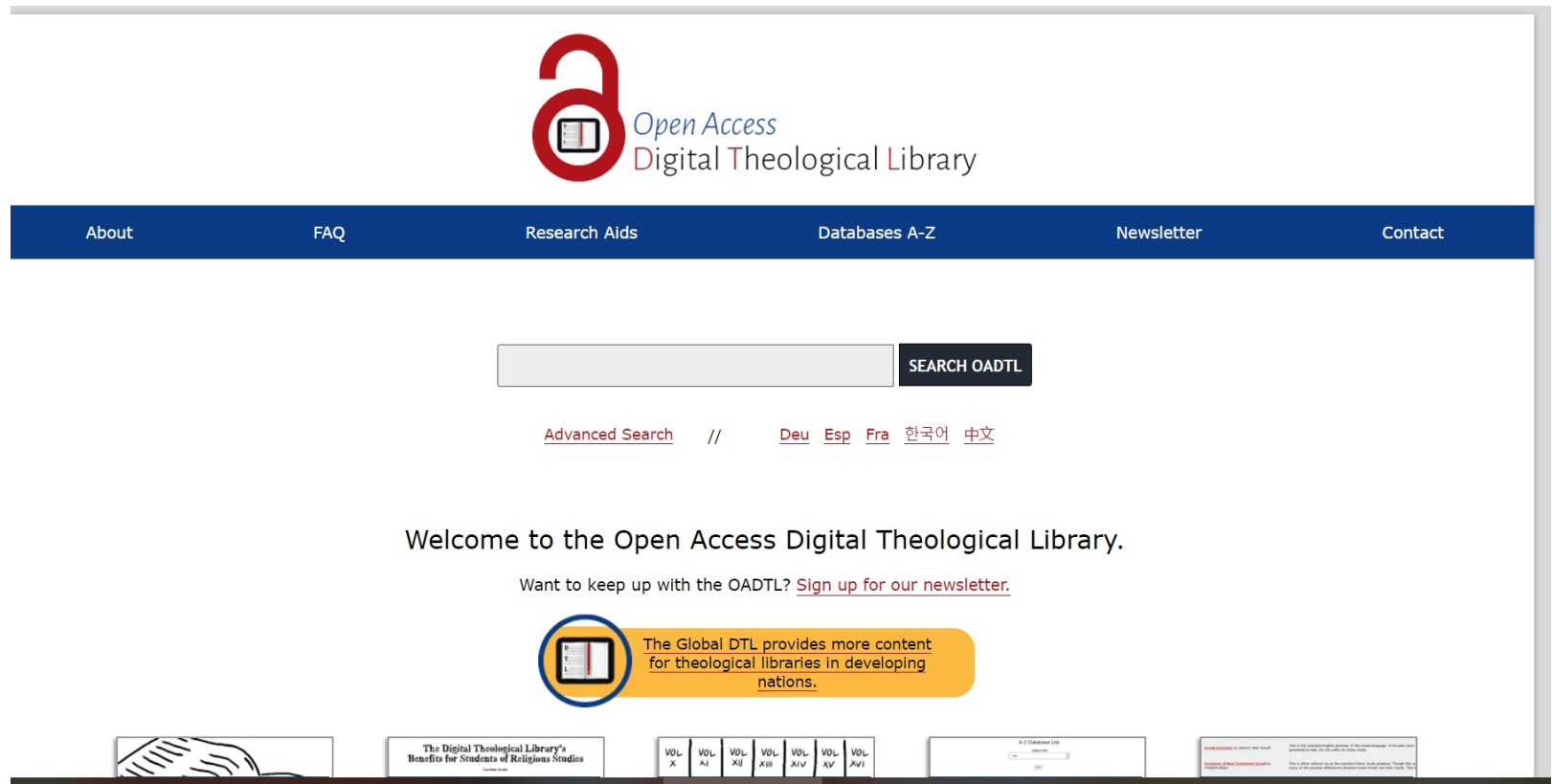
Literature Databases

(Underlined have all or many full text)

- Open Access Digital Theological Library
- African Journals Online (many open access)
- Hinari
- DOAJ—Directory of Open Access Journals <https://doaj.org/subjects>
- PubMed Central (all open access)
- African Index Medicus
- Google Scholar

Open Access Digital Theological Library

oadtl.org



OADTL Examples—Using search terms

‘Baptist theological education in sub-Saharan Africa ‘

- The concept of shalōm as a constructive bereavement healing framework within a pluralist health seeking context of Africa : original research. Benjamin S Keya, Vhumani Magezi. 2013 HTS : Theological Studies v69 n2 (20130101): 1-8
- An African hermeneutic reading of Luke 9:18-22 in relation to conflict and leadership in pastoral ministry : the Cameroonian context : original research. Ernest Van Eck, Mbengu D Nyiawung. 2013 HTS : Theological Studies v69 n1 (20130101): 1-9

Global Digital Library on Theology and Ecumenism--Globethics.net

Journals, articles, book chapters, etc.

The screenshot shows the homepage of Globethics.net. At the top left is the logo 'Globethics.net' with the tagline 'Ethics in Higher Education'. To the right are input fields for 'Email Address' and 'Password', a 'Sign In' button, and a link to 'Register now for free!'. Further right are several small national flags and a search bar labeled 'Search Globethics website'. Below this is a navigation bar with 'Library' highlighted, followed by 'Publications', 'Academy', and 'Network'. To the right of these are links for 'Home', 'News', 'Programmes', 'Projects', 'Research', 'About us', 'Partners', and 'Donate'. The main heading is 'Globethics.net Library', followed by the text 'The largest online digital library on applied ethics and theology for free'. Below this is a large search bar with the placeholder 'Search the Globethics.net Library' and a 'Go' button. To the right of the search bar is a section titled 'New to the Library?' with the text 'Learn about the online library and how to access all its content.' and two links: 'Get started »' and 'Contact us »'.

Globethics.net
Ethics in Higher Education

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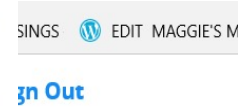
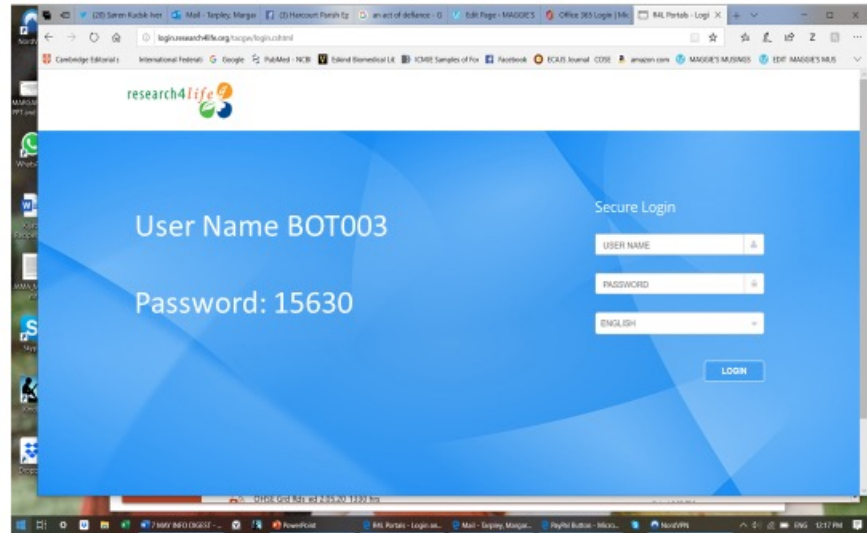
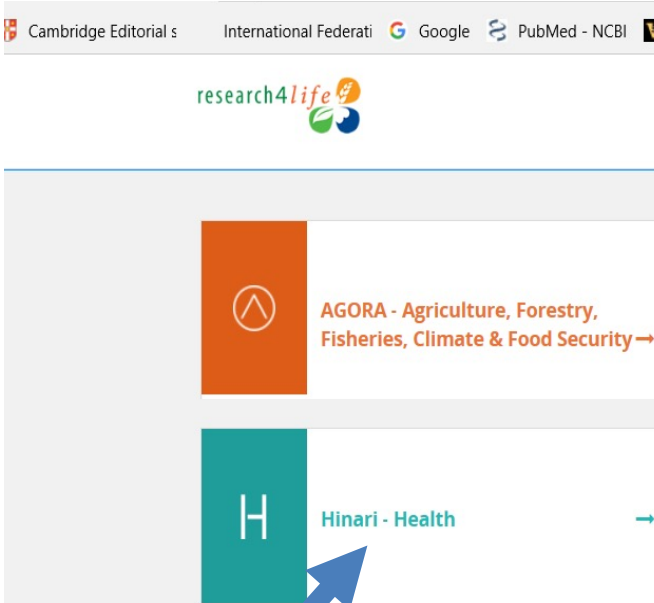
<https://www.globethics.net/#Discover%20four%20resources>

Globethics Examples—Using search terms 'Baptist theological education in sub-Saharan Africa'

- The church and sustainable development in sub-Saharan Africa. Hiagbe, Komi Ahiatoga. The Church History Society of Southern Africa, 2015-01-01.
- African women's theology, gender relations, and family systems theory : pastoral theological considerations and guidelines for care and counseling. Nyengele, Mpyana Fulgence (Peter Lang, 2004)

HINARI requires registration—
Most academic institutions can
register

- User Name
- Password:



Example is University of Botswana
that has Department of Theology and
Religious Studies

Hinari - Enabling the developing world to access health research

Search across all Research4Life...

Search

Search function provided by Summon

[Advanced search](#)

Journals collection

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Free collections

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Once you are logged in to the Hinari, Enter the subject in Search box or Advanced search



PubMed Central

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/>

PMC Examples—Using search terms

‘hospital chaplains and sub-Saharan Africa ‘

- Spiritual care practices in hospices in the Western cape, South Africa: the challenge of diversity. Ronita Mahilall, Leslie Swartz. BMC Palliat Care. 2021; 20: 9. Published online 2021 Jan 10.
- Reshaping maternal services in Nigeria: any need for spiritual care? Abiodun I Adanikin, Uche Onwudiegwu, Akinyemi A Akintayo. BMC Pregnancy Childbirth. 2014; 14: 196. Published online 2014 Jun 6.



African Journals Online (AJOL)

<http://www.ajol.info/>

AJOL Examples—Using search terms 'hospital chaplains and sub-Saharan Africa'

- Evaluation of quality of life and associated factors among HIV patients on antiretroviral therapy in North West region of Cameroon. Anisette N Busi. Marius Nsoh, Moses O Otieno, Sylvester A Ndeso, Gregory E Halle-Ekane. **African Health Sciences Vol 21, May, 2021**
- To God Be the Glory: Discussing Sex in Evangelical Communities in Southern Nigeria Lindsay M. Briggs*¹ , Kathleen R. Gilbert² , Michael D. Reece² , Brian M. Dodge² and Samuel G. Obeng. **African Journal of Reproductive Health December 2015; 19 (4): 41-49.**

DOAJ—Directory of Open Access Journals

- Aesthetics
- Buddhism
- Christian Denominations
- Christianity
- Doctrinal Theology
- Ethics
- Islam. Bahai Faith. Theosophy, etc.
- Judaism
- Logic
- Philosophy (General)
- Practical Theology
- Psychology
- Religions. Mythology. Rationalism
- Speculative philosophy
- The Bible

<https://doaj.org/subjects>

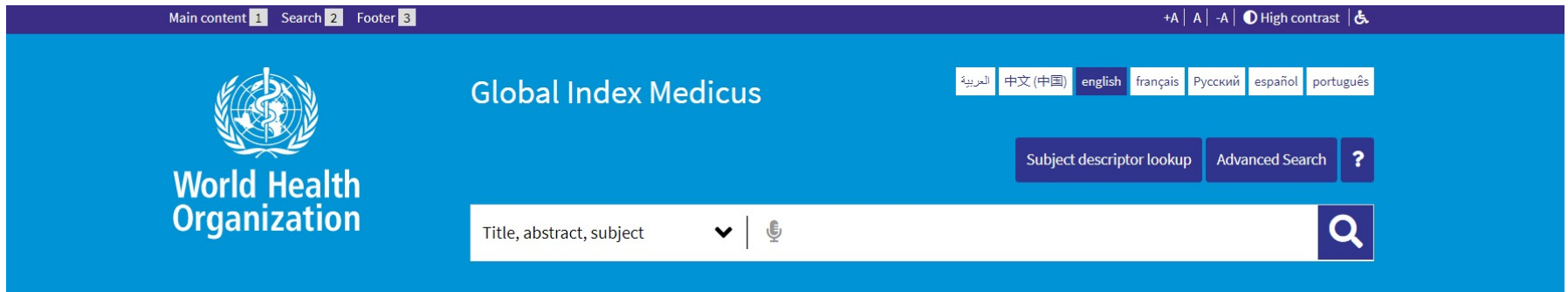
DOAJ--Religion

Doctrinal Theology

English

- Yorubá And Black Theologies, A Dialogue. Cláudio Carvalhaes. [Black Theology Papers Project \(2018-12-01\)](#)
- Engaging Theology and Theological Education in the Majority World: Recognizing Visual and Symbolic Theology from the Akan People's Illustrations. Kofi Amoateng (Methodist Church Ghana). [Global Forum on Arts and Christian Faith. Vol 6 \(2018\)](#)

African Index Medicus




<https://indexmedicus.afro.who.int/>

AIM Examples—Using search terms 'religion and sub-Saharan Africa '

- Stigma as 'Othering' among Christian Theology Students in South Africa. Van Breda, A. D..
SAHARA-J: Journal of Social Aspects of HIV/AIDS; 9(4); 181-191; fig., 2012.
- Demographic determinants of risky sexual behaviours among senior high school students in the Hohoe municipality, Ghana. Watsi, Lydia; Tarkang, Elvis Enowbeyang. Pan African Medical Journal - Clinical Medicine ; 2(81), NA, 2020.

Google Scholar—journal articles, theses, books--not everything that comes up is open access. <https://scholar.google.com/>

 My profile  My library

Google Scholar



☒ Articles ☐ Case law

Google Scholar Examples—Using search terms ‘hospital chaplains and sub-Saharan Africa’

Pregnancy outcomes in the era of universal antiretroviral treatment in sub-Saharan Africa (POISE Study). Sufia Dadabhai et al. [J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr. 2019 Jan 1; 80\(1\): 7–14.](#)

The role of faith-based health providers in the South African health system: a historical case study of their Nationalisation and Privatisation. Maitisa, Dineo Kwen. OpenUCT Home → [Theses / Dissertations](#) → Masters → View Item
<http://hdl.handle.net/11427/29639>

The changing landscape of mission medicine and hospitals in Sub-Saharan Africa Samuel Adu-Gyamfi et al. Dec [2020.](#)
[Christian Journal for Global Health 7\(5\)](#)

Examples of Results when Searching “Free Online Theology Resources”

Theological Book Network-- Free Digital Resources

<https://www.theologicalbooknetwork.org/join-the-network/free-digital-resources>

- [NT Gateway](#)
- Tyndale House Biblical Weblinks
- Theopedia
- Society of Biblical Literature
- The Theologian
- Christian Classics Ethereal Library
- A bibliography of the Bible in Africa
- Post-Reformation Digital Library
- Princeton Theological Commons
- Videos--Biblical Education. For the World. For Free.
- Et cetera!

Southern Methodist University

<https://www.smu.edu/Bridwell/Find/ReligionTheologyWebsites>

Duke University Open Access Resources in Religious & Theological Studies: Getting Started

<https://guides.library.duke.edu/openreligion>

Princeton Theological Seminary Resources for Everyone. The resources below are freely available to the general public.

<https://library.ptsem.edu/resources-for-everyone>

Theology resources on the web Union Theological College
Gamble Library (Presbyterian Church in Ireland) Theology-
resources-on-the-web.pdf (union.ac.uk)

Covenant Seminary Courses, Lectures & Sermons – All Free

<https://www.covenantseminary.edu/resources/>

Questions?

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