Mirlyn is the online catalog for the University of Michigan Library system. This includes UM-Flint Thompson Library, and all libraries on the University of Michigan campus in Ann Arbor.

**Search options for Mirlyn**

From the Thompson Library homepage [www.umflint.edu/library](http://www.umflint.edu/library), click the “Mirlyn: Library Catalog” link at the top of the left margin to get to the Mirlyn Advanced Search. This page allows you to narrow your search using a variety of options, as shown in the screen shot below:

If you would like to use Basic Search, there is a link at the top of the page. Basic Search is similar to a search engine in which there is simply a search box, a dropdown menu allowing you to specify what kind of information you have entered (i.e. author, title, keyword) and a “find” button.
Examining records in Mirlyn
When you do a search, you will get a list of results with the basic holdings information displayed on the results screen. You can see directly from the results page if a book is currently available (or “On Shelf”).

The results page will tell you several things. It will list the title, author, year of publication, format, location, status, and call number.

It also provides related search term links, called “facets,” in the left margin, which are the best ways to refine or narrow your search. In this example you can see that there are options to limit based on Subject, Academic Discipline, and Format. You could, for example, choose Visual Material under Format and limit your results from 27 to 2.

If you would like additional information about an item you can click on the title and it will bring up a web page allowing access to complete information on the item. This page will have tabs that will provide more detailed information including description, Library of Congress Subject Headings, number of pages, etc. You may also see a “Get this” button, which allows you to request items from the Ann Arbor campus libraries to be delivered to the Thompson Library.
How to place a “Get this” request

To place a “Get This” request, click the Get This button, low on the right side of an item display, as shown above. You will then be asked to login to Mirlyn, for which you will use your uniqname and Kerberos or “Ann Arbor” password (see “Kerberos Password” handout for more information).

After logging in, the resulting screen will ask you to select a pickup location from a dropdown menu. You will select UM-Flint (unless you live close to Ann Arbor, and want to pick books up at one of the libraries on that campus). **Most “Get This” requests are filled within a few days.** If you need an item before a certain date, for example, to use as a source for a paper, you can change the “hold cancellation” date. This date represents the date after which your request will be cancelled by the system. For example, if you have a paper due on April 15, you may want to designate April 8 as the hold cancellation date, because after that date, the item will probably not be useful to you. It is generally fine to keep the default date for this area.

Search hints for Mirlyn

- You can put an exact phrase in quotes so that Mirlyn knows to search for those words together in the order that they appear in the quotes. This will help eliminate results where only one of the desired words appears or where the words appear out of that order.
- Mirlyn is not case sensitive.
- Use Boolean operators (AND, OR & NOT) in uppercase letters to narrow or expand your results.
  - Use **AND** when you want to combine two different search terms into your search. This will help narrow your search by only bringing up results where both words appear. (e.g. poverty AND crime)
Use OR when you want to search for two similar words at the same time (e.g. global warming OR climate change). Using OR will expand your results by including results with either or both terms.

Use NOT when you want to exclude a word from your search. This will narrow your search by excluding terms that are irrelevant to your topic. (e.g. mexico NOT new)

You can use a "+" to indicate words that MUST be found in the record and a "–" to indicate words that should not appear in the record.

New features of Mirlyn
- User tagging
- Export to Refworks and Endnote
- Faceted search
- Spelling suggestions (limited)
- Status view from main page (i.e. whether the book is on the shelf or has been checked out)

You may have seen the link to Mirlyn Classic. Mirlyn Classic was our main catalog before the introduction of Mirlyn. It will still be available and has several unique features that you may want to occasionally use.

When should you use Mirlyn Classic?
You should use Mirlyn Classic when you have a very specific or a very complex search. You should also use Mirlyn Classic to access Course Reserves. There is no way to browse an alphabetical list in Mirlyn, or to browse an ordered list by call number. To do this type of browsing you will need to use Mirlyn Classic.

When should you use Mirlyn?
You should use Mirlyn when you want a wide variety of results or if you want to do a faceted search.

How is Mirlyn different from Mirlyn Classic?
Mirlyn provides a search experience that is similar to search engines with many resources being retrieved and ranked according to relevance. Titles can be narrowed through facets on the side of the page.