Using Electronic Resources for Student Research

Persistent Links

A persistent link is also sometimes known as a durable link. For journal databases, a persistent link will allow faculty to add a hyperlink in a web page or document so that students can connect directly to the full text of an article without having to do a search in the database.

Each of the Library databases has a different procedure for creating persistent links. The Library’s Persistent Link web page explains the process for several of our electronic resource vendors that have persistent linking capabilities. From the College Libraries Home page → click on the “Research Assistant” link, → then the “How to…” link, → then the “Creating Persistent Links” link:
http://www.potsdam.edu/library/home/Persistent_Links-2.htm

Activity #3: Add a journal article citation to your syllabus, bibliography, or web page and create a persistent link to the full text journal article:


1. Use “Citation Linker” to locate the article in Proquest.
2. Display the full citation of the article:

![ProQuest](image)

Located the “Document URL”
3. Use your mouse to highlight the “Document URL” then copy and paste the text of the URL into your target document (e.g. syllabus, webpage, Black Board, etc.):

http://proquest.umi.com/pqdlink?did=810924201&sid=1&Fmt=3&clientId=16735&RQT=309&VName=PQD

4. Add the EZProxy URL prefix to your persistent link to enable off-campus access. Most library databases are subscription based (i.e. we pay for them). Database vendors will only allow campus affiliated students, faculty and staff to access their databases. If a student is using a database from on-campus or from the dorms, they will be able to search and retrieve articles with no special login. However, if off-campus students will be accessing library databases via your persistent links, they will need to be authenticated by the campus proxy server.

You should paste the campus EZproxy address in front of each persistent link URL so that off-campus users will be able to get in. The proxy server will prompt each user to enter their Campus Computer Account username and password. More information about the EZproxy server is available at:
http://www.potsdam.edu/library/proxy/furtherinfo.htm

5. This is the EZproxy URL to paste in front of your persistent links:
http://webproxy.potsdam.edu:2048/login?url=

![Off-campus Log-in](image)

**Example of a complete persistent link including the web proxy prefix:**


Note that the above URL has two `http://` statements.

The EZproxy URL pasted in front of your persistent links will work for students on-campus as well as off-campus. All database links on Library web pages include the EZproxy prefix.