Video tutorial „Database Information System DBIS"
Detailed text version

In this text you will learn how to use the Library's Database Information System (known as DBIS).

The Database Information System or DBIS is the starting point for your database research. In DBIS, you will find information about licensed databases, as well as a selection of free scientific databases. Please be aware, that you can only search for databases in DBIS. You can only search for articles by subject within the databases themselves. Please also note that you need a VPN connection to access electronic resources from off campus. Unfortunately, DBIS is only available in German.

You will find the link to DBIS on the start page of unikat. Just click on the grey box called "DBIS Search for databases". On the start page of DBIS you will find a subject overview with the respective number of available databases on the right. Please note that a database can be assigned to more than one subject area.

If you click on a subject area, e.g., "Biology", a list of all databases on this subject opens, sorted by access type. At the top you can change the sorting, e.g., by database type. For some subject areas, but not for all of them so-called TOP databases are displayed. These are databases that are particularly relevant to the subject area. They are selected by the librarian responsible for that subject. Below that you will find all the other databases for the selected subject area.

Availability of databases

The availability of the database is indicated Click by a colour code. A green dot means that the database is generally accessible free of charge and without a license. A yellow dot means that the database has been licensed by the University of Graz. It is accessible on campus and, for university members, via VPN from home. If there is a red exclamation mark in the yellow dot, the database is licensed, but there are restrictions. For example, a one-time free registration may be required or a database may only be available on campus. A blue dot means that the database is only available at a single PC in the Media Library.

Search for databases

On the left you will find a search bar that you can use to search for databases. If you type in the name of a database, (e.g., Scopus), you will get a corresponding hit list. It is also possible to enter a keyword. DBIS uses the keyword to search the title, the keyword field and the content text in the detailed view of a database.

If you click on a database name the detailed view opens. Here you will find user notes, contents and instructions for the respective database. At the bottom you will see the subject areas covered by this database and also what type of database it is.

To enter more criteria for your database search, you can use the advanced search. You can switch to the advanced search by clicking on "Erweiterte Suche" beneath the search bar on the left. Here you can combine several search terms and criteria, e.g. subject areas, database types and more.