

Archival Sound Recordings

Archival Sound Recordings (ASR) is a database of audio clips, managed by the British Library. There are over 12,000 recordings of music, spoken word, and human and natural environments

Subject coverage: All subject areas

Dates of coverage: 1908 – present

What is the difference between the electronic journal A-Z listing and electronic databases?

The electronic journal listing is simply a list of journals which are available to us online. You should use it if you know which journal title you want to look at; for example if your tutor has recommended 'Journal of Contemporary Culture' in your reading list, then you should go directly to the A-Z listing and search for it.

A database is a collection of journals, and you use them to search for articles; for example if you are doing an assignment on 'postmodernism in Hollywood cinema' then you would use a database to find journal articles related to that topic. If you are using ASR, you use it to search for sound recordings rather than articles.

To access Archival Sound Recordings

- Go to www.ucpmarjon.ac.uk/facilities/library
- Click on **Electronic Resources**.
- Click on **Database listing**.
- Scroll down the list of databases and click on **Archival Sound Recordings**
- Click on the link in the top right hand corner that says 'Log in via your home institution'.
- From the drop down box, select University College Plymouth St Mark & St John.
- You will then need to enter your Marjon student number and network password.
- This log in procedure applies whether you are working on or off campus.

Problems with logging in

- You will not be able to log in if your Marjon password has expired.
- Your password needs resetting every 120 days as a security measure, so remember to do this otherwise you will not be able to log in.
- If your password has expired, or you have forgotten it, go to www.marjon.ac.uk/email and see the 'password reset' section.
- If you have problems with resetting your password, please contact computingservices@marjon.ac.uk

How to search

- Enter your search terms. Try using the Boolean search method and search tools as detailed overleaf.
- Remember that you may need to try different combinations of search terms to get results.
- Choose which collection you would like to search from the drop down box – or leave as '*all collections*'.
- Click on '*GO*'.
- There is also a link to search tips if you have problems with getting any results.
- Your results will be displayed in a list.
- Click on the result that you would like to listen to.
- You can either play immediately or download the audio clip.

Boolean searching

This is a type of searching used in online electronic resources, and uses the words AND, OR and NOT. It is a way of combining or excluding words. For example:

- Atmosphere AND Dartmoor = results which cover **both search terms**
- Ocean OR SEA = results which cover **one search term or the other**
- Amphibians NOT FROGS = results which cover **only the first search term**

Search tools

Using special symbols can expand the scope of your search:

- Use * to 'truncate' search terms. This expands a search term, eg. Cultu* will search culture, cultures, cultural, and cultured.
- Use ? to find alternative spelling, eg. Sociali?ation will search both socialisation and socialization.

Choosing your search terms

You need to consider your search terms when you do a search. Think about:

- Technical terminology and colloquialisms
- Alternative terminology
- Alternative spellings such as American spelling

Also try to have a very definite idea of what it is you are searching for and stick to it – it is easy to follow different links and go off on a tangent when you are using the databases.

Problems?

If you have any problems with using Archival Sound Recordings, please email libraryenquiries@marjon.ac.uk