Frequently Asked Questions

What is Wiley Digital Archives?

Wiley Digital Archives is a continuous initiative to tell the story behind published work. This is executed through partnerships with the world's leading societies, libraries, and archives to digitize hundreds of years' worth of rare and valuable primary resources that have, until now, been inaccessible to most. These collections offer a more rich, holistic scholarly record, adding historical context to various subjects. This deeper context enables researchers and students to gain a closer understanding, or even reinterpretation, of previously published research conclusions.

Why is Wiley digitizing historical archives?

Wiley is undertaking this substantial task in order to give users an exclusive glimpse into extensive and distinct research cultivated by some of the world's most prominent societies. Additionally, this process will help preserve valuable research for generations to come and will better enable researchers around the world to innovate within their respective fields.

With whom does Wiley partner?

In the initial offering for 2018, Wiley Digital Archives has partnerships with two prestigious academic societies:

New York Academy of Sciences (NYAS)

The NYAS has been driving innovative solutions to society's challenges by advancing scientific research, education, and policy for 200 years. This unique collection will span from 1817 to 2009.

Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland (RAI)

The RAI is committed to promoting a public understanding of anthropology and the contribution of anthropology to public affairs. This collection will span from 1871-1967 (post-1967 material is held under privacy rules).



Will Wiley be partnering with other societies?

Yes! While our initial 2018 offering will include collections from the New York Academy of Sciences and the Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland, we are continuously working on solidifying other partnerships so that we may make the archives of other leading societies digitally accessible and discoverable. Our next collection will be from the Royal College of Physicians (RCP) in late 2018.



How do the society partners benefit from this arrangement, and does the original content return to the society?

Our partners get a free copy of the new digital resource and receive all of their items returned in better condition: repaired, in new archival housing storage (boxes, folders) if needed, and with enhanced metadata. We also never restrict any access whatsoever to the analog content while providing preservation copies of the newly-digitized content back to each partner society.



What is the process behind making these documents available?

First, we partner with well-known societies that have valuable physical archives that are digitally untapped. We send a team of trained conservators, catalogers, and scanning experts to take inventory. These professionals are equipped with state-of-the-art tools to repair, restore, and preserve all documents. After that, we digitize them for the modern researcher, which includes making documents both searchable and browseable, and with tools for visualization, mapping, and textual analysis.

What types of documents will be available?

Each collection brings its own unique types of materials into a researcher's view. Below are some examples of materials you might find in one or more of the collections:

- Administrative records
- Books
- Blueprints
- Conference papers
- Correspondence
- Data
- Ephemera
- Fieldwork

- Grey literature
- Illustrations
- Manuscripts
- Maps
 - Meetings
 - Minute books
 - Monographs
 - Newspapers

- Pamphlets
- Periodicals
- Personal papers
- PhotographsProceedings
- Reports
- Surveys

What makes Wiley Digital Archives unique?

We have specifically designed the Wiley Digital Archives platform to meet modern archival research needs. It is a bespoke platform that has been purposely built for digital archive research. For handwritten materials, we manually input information from document headers, such as names, places, and dates, to make the manuscript content more discoverable. Printed documents are full-text searchable, and the text generated by Optical Character Recognition can be downloaded. We key in tabular data, so items, such as charts, graphs, and datasets, are exportable into a CSV document with one click, including handwritten data captured in fieldnotes and elsewhere. Search results are returned visually, rather than simply as a static list, and historical maps are geo-tagged, which can be searched or accessed by visual browse and refined by metadata fields. In addition, the search engine performs full boolean search functionality and fuzzy logic searching.

You can print and download individual documents, as well as share them via email or social media. When an item has been shared, the recipient will be able to view it in the actual resource without authentication. To access further content in the database, the recipient would need to authenticate into Wiley Digital Archives.



What types of administrative and integration features are available?

Wiley Digital Archives uses the MARC standard for catologing records, preventing deduplication of work and allowing libraries to better share predictable and reliable bibliographic resources. MARC is the industry standard for recordkeeping that helps foster the communication of information.

We are also COUNTER-compliant, meaning we produce and exchange consistent, credible usage statistics. This allows libraries to compare usage data received from different vendors and publishers. Libraries use the information to better understand and demonstrate the value of the electronic resources they are providing access to.

Additionally, Wiley Digital Archives will deliver metadata to major search and discovery services, such as The Summon® Service, Primo® and EBSCO Discovery ServiceTM, to promote the helpful exchange of information. This will be done upon completion of the digitization of the full collection.

The text (OCR, metadata) and images behind the Wiley Digital Archives program are available to any institution with access to the parent resources, free of charge, for textual analysis and data-mining outside of the resource. Wiley will also deposit a copy of each archive with an accredited third-party repository to guarantee preservation and access.

Lastly, administrators can manage their access rights directly through the platform.



How do researchers, educators, and students gain access to this newly-digitized content?

Once an institution has purchased a collection within Wiley Digital Archives, users will gain access via a fully-integrated platform upon the March 2018 launch. If multiple collections are purchased, users can perform cross-collection searches.

How do I purchase Wiley Digital Archives?

Wiley bases the pricing for each collection hosted on Wiley Digital Archives on the value of the content, uniqueness, appeal, size of collection, and other factors, such as FTE. With a one-time purchase per collection, your institution will have continuous access for an unlimited amount of users. There are no ongoing fees once the collection is purchased, and librarian and researcher training is gladly offered from Wiley.

Contact your Wiley Account Manager to learn more.

