

Comprehensive Searching – Finding Descendant Citations

<https://www.alverno.edu/media/alvernocollege/library/pdfs/citation.pdf>

References cited in a research study can be used to track down earlier studies on the same topic. This is the **ancestry approach** to finding information. Alternatively, you can find citations that are more recent by using a citation index and the **descendancy approach** to finding information. The following steps explain how to find “descendent” citations using Google Scholar.

1. Access Google Scholar by using the search box found on the [Alverno Library](#) homepage. This allows you to access articles found in the library’s subscription databases and resources available on the “free” web.



2. Enter the title of your document in the Google Scholar search box and run a search.
3. Click the “Cited by” link to find the “descendants”. If an article is available full text, link(s) will be on the right side.

