

## **Brief Guide to Searching the ISTC**

To search the ISTC, you can still enter any number of keywords into the search box. This will search all indexes. To improve the accuracy of your search results, you can enter the terms below into the single search box and combine as many as you like with Boolean operators (AND, OR, NOT). When combining fields, each field name has to be followed by a colon and the search term without a space, as in the examples below.

id: The ISTC number (Marc field 001).

author: The author of a publication (Marc field 100), e.g. author:aesopus.

heading: The uniform heading when a publication has no author (Marc field 130).

title: The title of a publication (Marc field 245).

place: The place of printing or publication as given in the imprint statement (Marc field 260) as well as the modern name form and common variants.

printer: The printer or publisher as given in the imprint statement (Marc field 260).

date: The year of publication (Marc field 008).

language: The language of a publication (Marc field 008). This is a three-letter code from the Marc Code List for Languages .

format: The bibliographic format (Marc field 300).

reference: The bibliographical reference (Marc field 510).

location: The name of a holding institution and the country where it is located. This is a two-letter code.

location\_count: The number of institutions which hold a copy of the described edition.

shelfmark: The British Library shelfmark.

For example:

author:schedel AND title:liber AND date:1493

This will find both the Latin and the German edition of the Liber chronicarum of 1493.

author:aesopus AND language:ita NOT place:rome

This will find the works by Aesop printed in Italian but not printed in Rome.

printer:caxton AND place:westminster NOT location:oxford

This will find works printed by Caxton in Westminster of which no copies are held in libraries in Oxford.

printer:"de worde" OR printer:caxton

This will find books printed by Wynkyn de Worde and books printed by William Caxton.

location\_count:3

This will identify the titles which survive in three institutions.

place:venice NOT location:it

This will find books printed in Venice which are not held in Italian libraries.

title:(ethica OR poetica)

This will find all books which either have the word 'ethica' or the word 'poetica' in the title.

You can also search for date ranges, for example:

date:[1490 TO 1495] will find all books printed between 1490 and 1495.

date:[1490 TO \*] will find anything printed from 1490 onwards.

Each set of results is presented in a numbered list, and you can view brief or full displays of all titles on a list. The brief display can be opened and closed by clicking the relevant link ('Brief Display' or 'Close Brief Display'), and the full display can be accessed by clicking on the heading at the top of a result or the 'Full Display' link at the bottom of an entry on the list.

To get back from the full display to the list of results, please click 'search' in the menu bar.