

Fundamentals of Software Engineering

Preparatory Lab Exercise: Setting the Scene

The preparatory Lab Exercise is only available on line via GCULearn!

Q1

(a)

If you are not already logged on to a computer in the lab that you are currently situated in do so now!

Using whatever search facilities you think are appropriate (For example Google), search the Internet for an article titled “Why Software Fails” published on line in IEEE Spectrum in September 2005.

If all goes well you should be able to access this article as a web page.

The Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) produce a wide range of publications which you will make use of at some point in your University/Computing Career.

(b)

You will now repeat this exercise and search for the article identified in part Q1(a) using the University Library Catalogue.

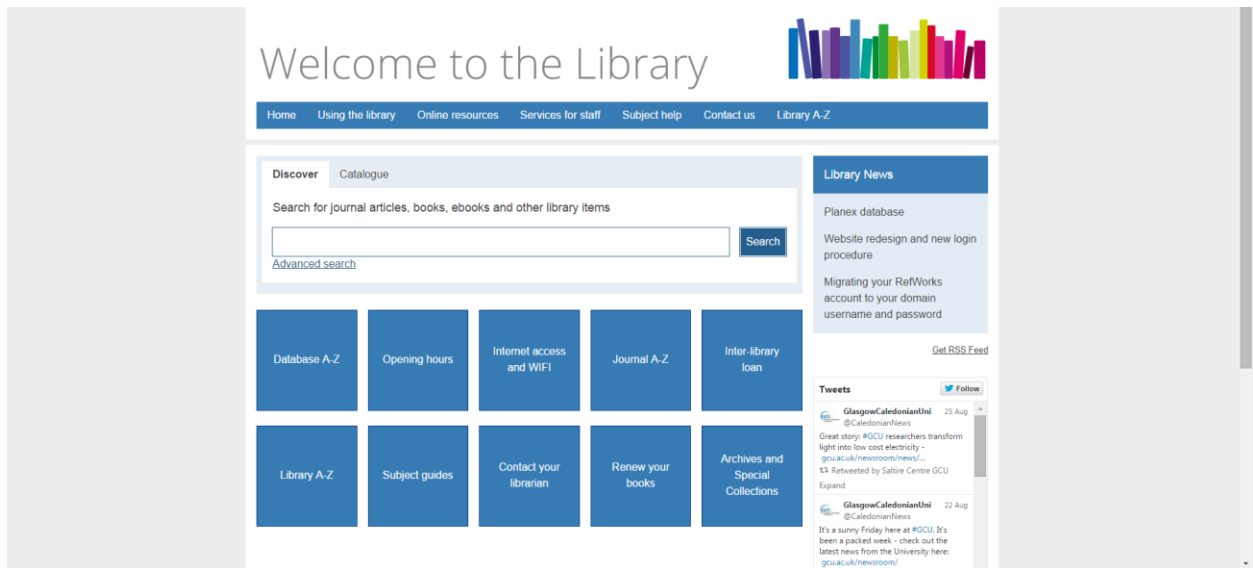
At some point in the following sequence you will be asked for your user name and password again. Enter this when required.

First of all navigate to the student home page of the University Web Site

www.gcu.ac.uk/student

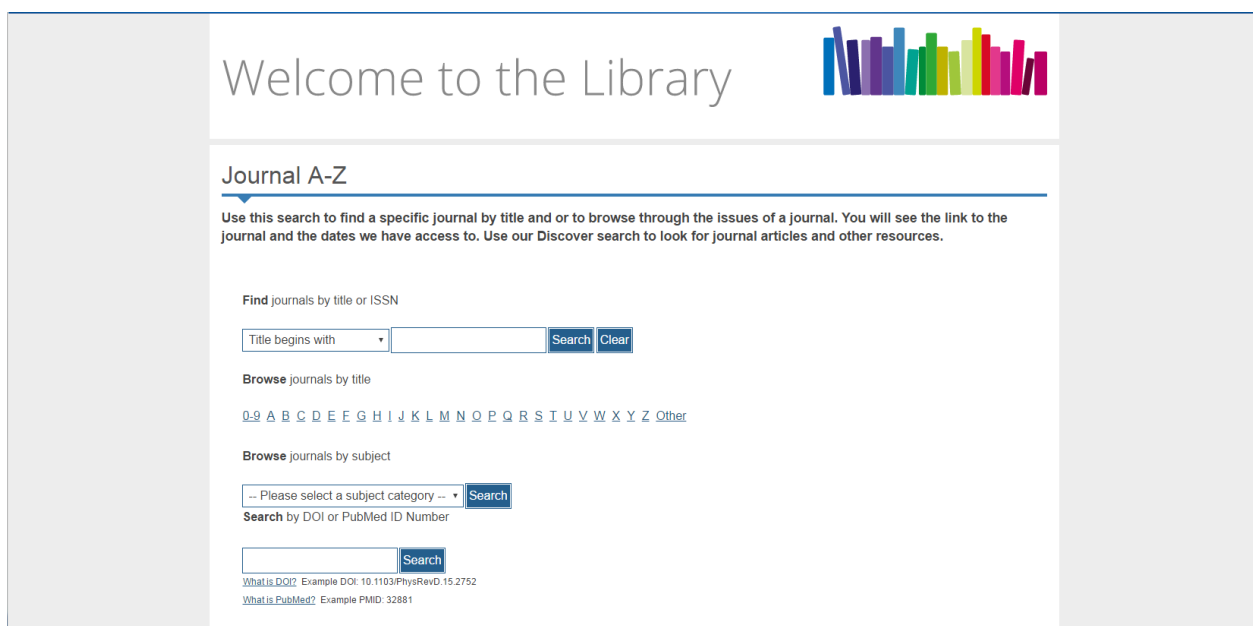
Once you are there, select Library Services from the Study Column.

You should now be presented with the Discover Tab as shown below.



Now Click on the Journal A-Z rectangle.

You should now be presented with the screen shown below.

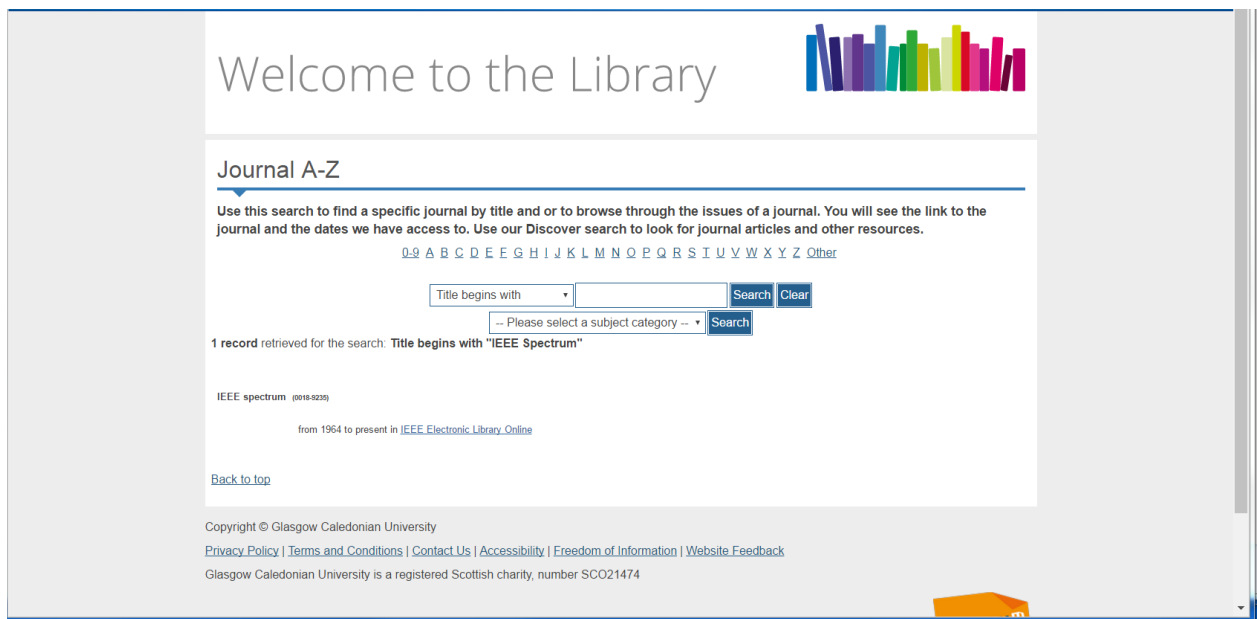


Now in the Find journals by title or ISSN option type

IEEE Spectrum

and then press the search key.

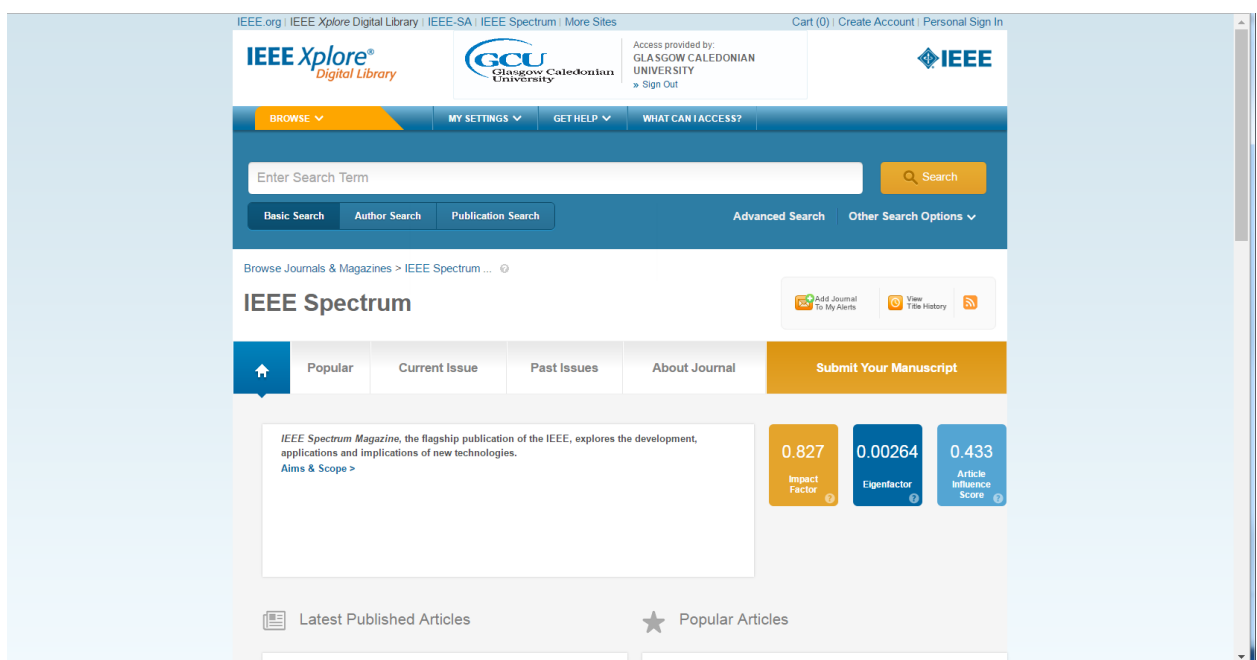
You should see a page similar to the one below.



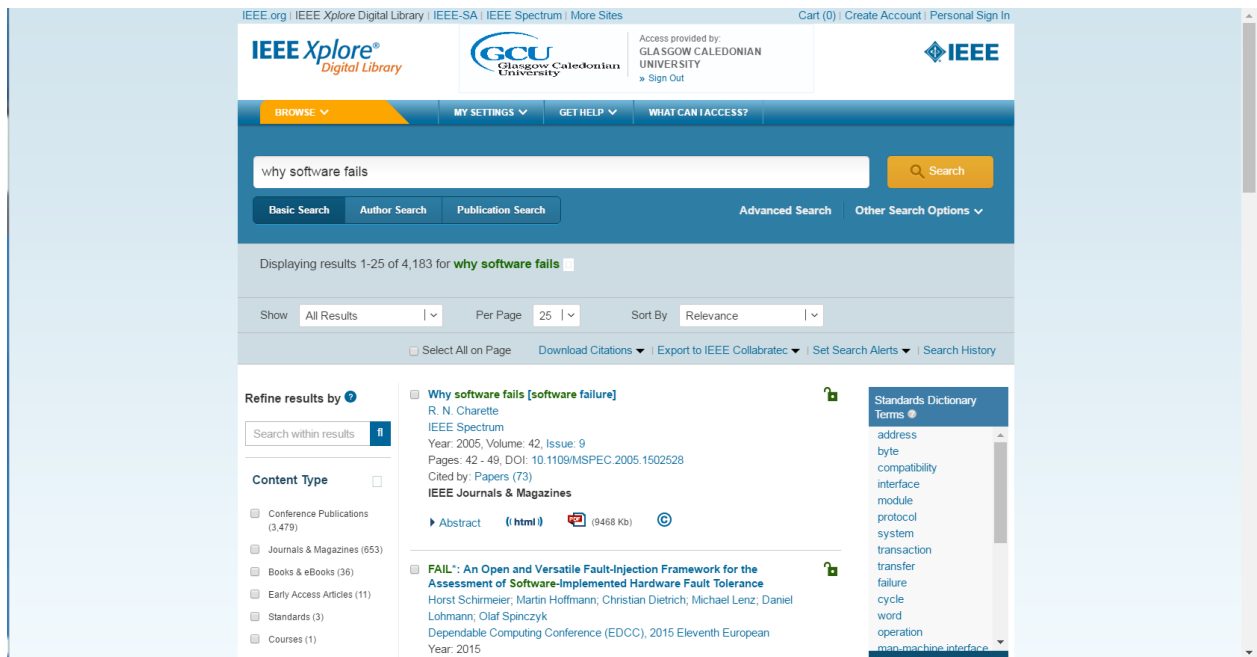
Now click on the entry for IEEE spectrum.

You may now be asked for your user name and password.

Once you have entered your user name and password you should get a display similar to that shown below.



Enter “Why Software Fails” where it says Enter Search Term and then press Search



The article that you want should be the top item in the list. Click on the PDF link. This will display a PDF version of the article. Save the pdf file as well for later use. Now proceed to question 2.

Q2

Once you have found this article read through it and makes “some notes” on the main points identified in the article. The notes should cover the main findings, facts and figures etc.

Q3

Once you have made these notes ask you lab supervisor for a set of questions related to this article. You will be expected to answer these questions using the notes that you have made.

Q4

To finish off Search for the following article using the IEEE Library Catalogue.

“Successful Software Projects Need Requirements Planning by Annie I Anton.

This is a short article and outlines some aspects of Requirements Planning. You will come across Requirements in the lecture series.

Read through the article.