

Scholar is a social bookmarking tool that works inside and outside of Blackboard courses. You can use Scholar as a personal bookmarking tool (like the Delicious tool available currently on the web), but if you teach a Blackboard course you can integrate your bookmark collections and searches into your courses. Scholar is account-driven so you need to create a username and password. If a user moves to another educational institution that uses Blackboard, he/she can use the same Scholar account. Like other social bookmarking tools, there is also a bookmarklet that allows you to add web sites to your list as you browse.



My Institution Courses Content Collection **Scholar**

Welcome to Scholar!

Find relevant, reliable resources more easily »

Evaluate the quality of the resources »

Save and classify your bookmarks and searches »

Share resources among your peers and colleagues »

[How does Scholar work?](#)

[See For Yourself](#)

The Secret Life of the Brain: 3-D Brain Anatomy
(Saved by 32 other scholars)

Interactive 3-D model of the human brain. Explains basic functions of major areas of the brain in a cool, dynamic visual way.

Owner: [Cathy Chu](#)

Tags: [brain](#) [introductory](#) [cortex](#) [human](#) [cognition](#)

Discipline Tags: [Biology](#) [Psychology](#)


NOTE: This will take you to the public site, www.scholar.com. You will need to return here to create your account.

There are two methods for using Scholar:

- *My Scholar* is your Scholar home page that can be accessed inside/outside of Blackboard. In addition to using this as a personal bookmarking tool, you can create course-based references from this page and push them to Blackboard courses through the Scholar Course Home. You can access your Scholar Home from the Scholar tab in Blackboard or go to www.scholar.com and log in.
- *Scholar Course Home* is a Scholar home page that is geared toward a specific course and exists in a Blackboard course. This page can be tagged by the instructor or students (if allowed). It has a tag cloud and can be monitored by the instructor for relevance and allows key concepts to emerge dynamically as the page is populated by resources. This is discussed in the section of this guide, called "Using Scholar within a Course."

Both methods involve learning how to add bookmarks and streams, plus understanding tags and clouds, as well as working with a dynamic medium since bookmarks are subject to change as opposed to a static External Link. These concepts are described below.

Create a Scholar Account

1. The first time you access Scholar, you'll need to create an "account," where you will choose a login name and password. Consider the login name carefully, because it cannot be changed once created. Click the  tab.
2. Enter your name, email address, login and password information.
3. Decide whether or not to complete your Scholar profile now (clear the checkbox to perform this task later through the **Settings** link).
4. Check the required boxes for terms of use and minimum age requirement.

New User

Your account on this Blackboard system does not appear to be associated with a Scholar account. If you already have a Scholar account, click on "Already a Scholar member?" Otherwise, create a new Scholar account below.

* First Name:

* Last Name:

* Email:

* Desired Scholar Login:

* Desired Scholar Password:

* Confirm Desired Password:

* Password Hint Question:

* Password Hint Answer:

Let me set up my Scholar profile now.

* I Agree to [Terms of Use](#).

5. Click .

- From now on, when you click the Scholar tab, you'll be automatically logged into the tool.
- Here is a sample of what the My Scholar Home page will look like once you start creating bookmarks and streams:

Logged in as rschilling Settings Install Bookmarklet Help Contact Us

scholar^{beta}
by Blackboard

Hello, Ron Schilling.

Bookmark views: Mine All Popular

Add a Stream Add a Bookmark Invite a User Search Bookmarks Search Advanced Search

My Bookmarks

- ▶ Orme Dam
- ▶ History News Network
- ▶ Blackboard Help for Students
- ▶ SCC Technology Training Schedule

Edit List View All

American History

- ▶ The Library of Congress
- ▶ American Centuries

Custom stream

All Bookmarks

- ▶ MERLOT - Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching
- ▶ The Sloan Consortium A Consortium of Institutions and Organizations Committed to Quality Online Education
- ▶ Graphic Organizers
- ▶ Google Docs
- ▶ Teacher Tube
- ▶ Convert

My Notifications & Invitations

New Notifications: 1

tlfoster has invited you to be a Friend on Scholar. [View the invitation.](#)

You sent an Invitation to join Scholar to ron.schilling@scottsdalecc.edu.

Message from Scholar Admin: You've got new Scholar features to build relationships and network with other Scholars. Enjoy!

To return to the Scholar home page, click the tab.

Adding a Bookmark

1. Click **Add a Bookmark**.
2. Enter name, URL and optional description.
3. Enter Tags, as desired.
4. Change Status to Private, if desired. Note the menu below:

Add a Bookmark

Fill out the form below to add a bookmark to My Bookmarks. [Learn more about adding bookmarks.](#)

* **Bookmark Name:** This is the title you & others will see displayed

* **URL:** You can copy & paste a URL here

Description:

Separate tags with spaces. Put multiple word tags within quotation marks, e.g. "social networking"

Tags: Enter single words or short phrases

Discipline Tags: Select from large, pull-down list

[Suggest an additional Discipline](#)

Course Tags: Lists only courses in which you are enrolled

Status: Public / Private

If set to private, lock icon appears next to bookmark in list

5. Click **Save**. The new bookmark appears at top of All Bookmarks list.

Renaming or Deleting Tags

1. Click **Settings** from the menu across the upper right-hand side of the screen.
2. Click **Manage Tags**. You have two basic options:
 - Select the tag name from the pull-down menu and click **Delete**.
 - Select the tag from the menu, enter the new name, then click **Replace**.

Importing Bookmarks

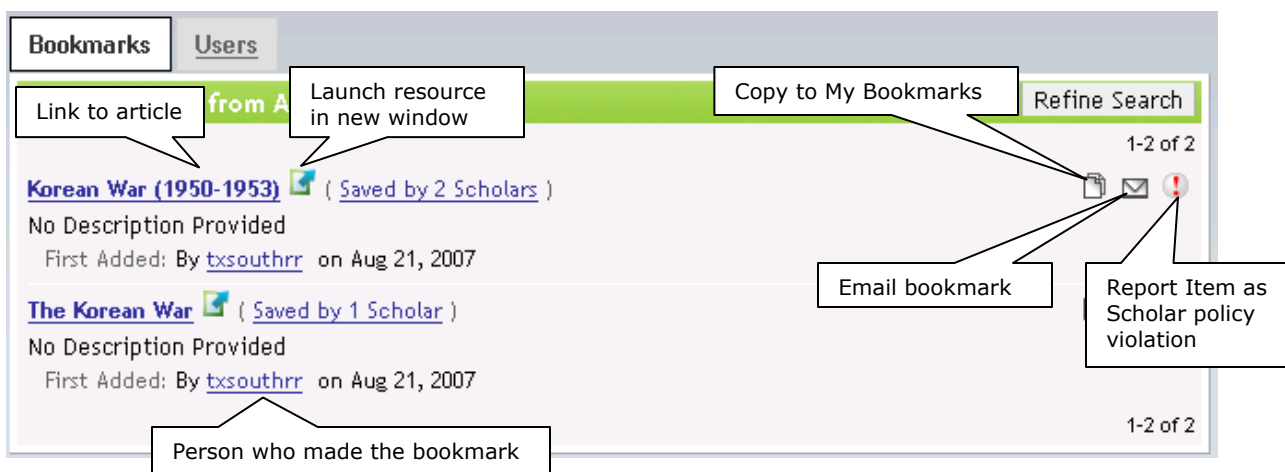
1. Click **Settings**.
2. Click **Import Bookmarks**.
3. Click **Learn more about importing bookmarks** for instructions on creating the file to import from your browser or Delicious.

Installing the Bookmarklet

This one-time install makes it more convenient to add bookmarks by creating a button in your browser's toolbar. Click **Install Bookmarklet** from the menu that displays across the upper right-hand side of the screen. Follow the instructions to download for the browser you are currently using.

Searching for Bookmarks

Use the Search box to perform quick and simple searches for bookmarks made by the Scholar community. Here's a sample results page, when searching for "korean war."



For more sophisticated searches – and to save search criteria for later use – use the advanced search feature.

1. Click **Advanced Search** . The Advanced Bookmark Search page displays:

Advanced Bookmark Search

Fill out the form to complete a search. Multiple terms within a field are joined by an AND operator. Multiple fields are joined with an AND operator. Click the "Add an OR Statement" button to add an OR operator. [Learn more about searching.](#)

Keywords

Tags

Discipline Tags

Course Tags

[Add Criteria](#) To narrow the search

Individual Bookmarks URLs (no duplicates)

Limit results to: All Scholar Users My Friends My Favorites

Save Search as

Add an OR Statement To broaden the search

Searches in Title, Description or Tags

2. Enter the desired criteria, determine how and what results are displayed.

3. Click **Search** .

- If you want to retain the search criteria for later use, enter **a title** in the *Save Search as* box, then click one of the Save buttons. Saved searches (which are useful with Streams) appear in the list to the right, as in this example:

Saved Searches

| Search Name | Last Modified Date | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|--|--|--|
| All Bookmarks | Mar 11, 2009 | | | |
| American Histor... | Mar 24, 2009 | | | |
| HIS 104 | Mar 24, 2009 | | | |
| My Bookmarks | Mar 11, 2009 | | | |

Access help

Edit settings

Remove

Rename title

Adding a Stream

A stream is a dynamic list of bookmarks that update automatically in modules that appear on your Scholar home page. For example, you could create a stream that quickly shows you new bookmarks added by a particular user with a specific tag. "All Bookmarks" and "My Bookmarks" stream modules appear by default. Streams are dependent on saved searches (see above).

1. Click **Add a Stream**. The following menu appears:

Add a Stream

Select a saved search to add to your Scholar Home page as a stream. [Learn more about adding streams.](#)

Saved search: All Bookmarks
 HIS 104
 History
 My Bookmarks

Enter the number of results to display

Results:

From 1 to 25

Cancel **Add this Stream**

If you don't see the saved search you need, start a new search, save it, then add it as a stream.

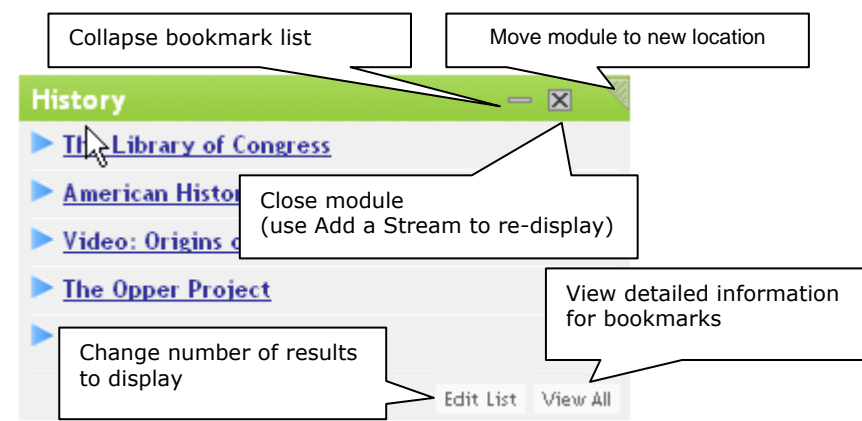
Start New Search

Takes you to Advanced Bookmark Search page to save a new search

List can be altered through Advanced Search

2. Select the *Saved search*, and enter the number of *Results*.
3. Click **Add this Stream**. The stream is displayed as a new module box, with the Stream name as the title and the specified number of results listed.

Adjusting a Stream Module



Using Tag Clouds

This is a way to represent tags in a more visual manner. The tags are still listed alphabetically, but the larger the size of the text, the more frequently the tag has been used. See sample to the right. →

Here are your options to customize the cloud:

- Change *Sort* order to "freq" (frequency).
- Change *View* to straight, vertical "list."
- Change *Minimum* from used at least one time to "3" or "10."
- Change *Layout* to "merge" the three tag categories together.

There are three other types of tag clouds, depending on the Bookmark link you choose:

| | |
|--------------|-------------------|
| All link | Recent Tag Cloud |
| Popular link | Popular Tag Cloud |
| <user> link | User Tag Cloud |

Tags
[american histor](#)
[Y arizona current events training tutorials](#)

Discipline Tags
[Computer Science](#) [History](#)

Course Tags
[09 SCC - Fall HIS 104](#)
[12121-SCC.SCHILLIN](#)
[G.PRACTICE1](#) [SCC Practice](#)
[Course-scc.practice.schilling2](#)

| Sort | View | Minimum | Layout |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| alpha freq | cloud list | 1, 2, 10 | split merge |

Inviting a User

Encourage a current Blackboard user to create a Scholar account and use the tool.

1. Click **Invite a User**.
 - You are not able to invite a user until you run through the email validation process. A link is available from the warning message; follow the instructions sent via email to provide verification.
2. Enter the email address of the user and type a Personal Message.

Invite a User Displays Advanced User Search page

Want to ask someone already using Scholar to become a Friend? Just [search](#) for them.

Want to introduce someone to Scholar? If they don't already have an account, encourage them to join by sending them an email invitation.

From: Enter invitee's email address

To:

Subject:

Personal Message:

Do you want to send a friend invite when the invited user's account is created?

Yes

No

3. Click **Send Invite**. The invitee will receive an email with a link to a web page to start the user account creation process.

Using Scholar within a Course

You can use Scholar within your course in two ways: 1) embed an individual Bookmark or a dynamic Stream as a custom item within a content area; and 2) create a Scholar Course Home link for you and your students to view and contribute bookmarks.

Add a Bookmark content item:

1. From a content area in your course, select **Add Scholar Bookmark** from the **Build** double chevron menu.
2. Enter the desired criteria, then click ; a filtered list of bookmarks displays.
3. Select the desired bookmarks, then **click** .
4. Click **OK**. The bookmarks appear as separate external links in the content area.

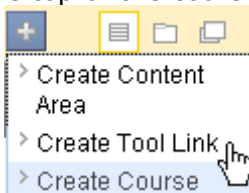
Add a Stream content item:

1. From a content area in your course, select **Add Scholar Stream** from the **Build** double chevron menu.
2. Enter the desired criteria, then click ; a filtered list of bookmarks displays.
3. Enter the new *Stream name* and *Number of results*.
4. Click .
5. Click **OK**. The Stream appears as one item that automatically updates.

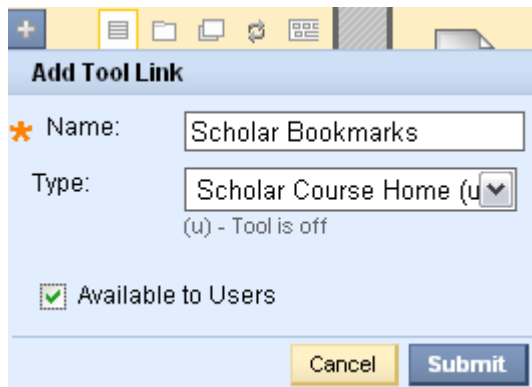
Add a Scholar Course Home link:

Students and the instructor can manually access Scholar Course Home through the Tools area. The following instructions describe how to create a more convenient link that would be available directly through the course menu.

1. From the plus sign located at the top of the course menu, select Create Tool Link.



2. Enter a name for the link.
3. Select Scholar Course Home from the Type drop-down menu.

A screenshot of the 'Add Tool Link' dialog box. The title bar says 'Add Tool Link'. There are three input fields: 'Name:' with the text 'Scholar Bookmarks', 'Type:' with a dropdown menu showing 'Scholar Course Home (u)' and '(u) - Tool is off' below it, and a checked checkbox labeled 'Available to Users'. At the bottom right, there are two buttons: 'Cancel' and 'Submit'.

4. Make the link available to users and click **Submit**.

- The *first* time you open the new item from the course menu, you'll need to register your course with Scholar, in this message box:

Register Course

To register your course with Scholar, complete the form below. [Learn more about using Scholar with your course.](#)

Institution Name: Maricopa Community Colleges

Course Title: 09 SCC - Fall HIS 104 12121

Course Identifier: SCC.SCHILLING.PRACTICE1

*** Discipline:** ▼

Select your discipline from the list

Register Course

After selecting your discipline and clicking **Register Course**, this takes you to the Scholar Course home page.