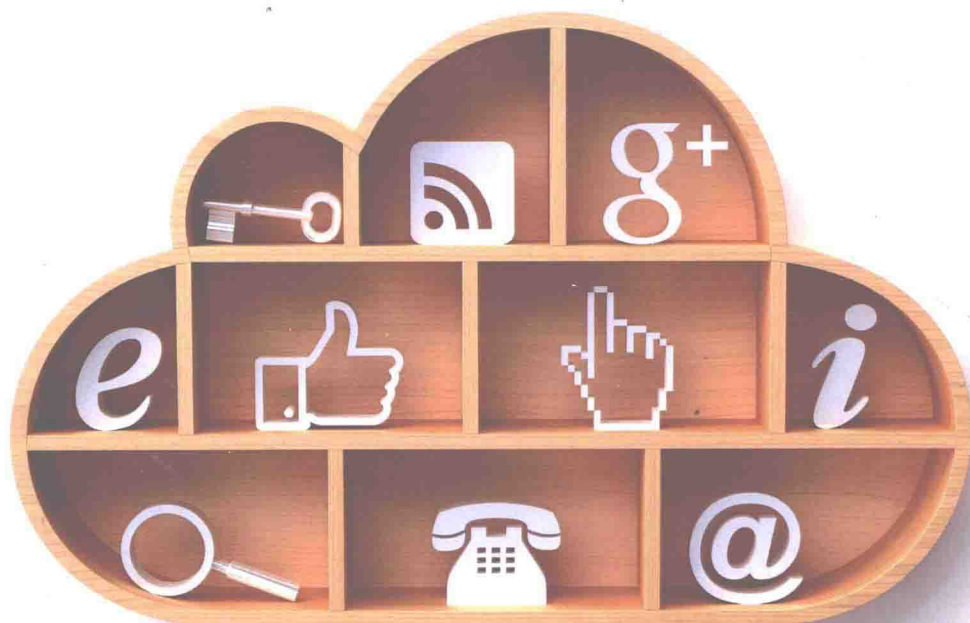


# The Librarian's Guide to Academic Research in the Cloud

Steven Ovadia



# The Librarian's Guide to Academic Research in the Cloud

STEVEN OVADIA



Oxford Cambridge New Delhi

Chandos Publishing  
Hexagon House  
Avenue 4  
Station Lane  
Witney  
Oxford OX28 4BN  
UK  
Tel: +44 (0) 1993 848726  
Email: [info@chandospublishing.com](mailto:info@chandospublishing.com)  
[www.chandospublishing.com](http://www.chandospublishing.com)  
[www.chandospublishingonline.com](http://www.chandospublishingonline.com)

Chandos Publishing is an imprint of Woodhead Publishing Limited

Woodhead Publishing Limited  
80 High Street  
Sawston  
Cambridge CB22 3HJ  
UK  
Tel: +44 (0) 1223 499140  
Fax: +44 (0) 1223 832819  
[www.woodheadpublishing.com](http://www.woodheadpublishing.com)

---

First published in 2013

ISBN: 978-1-84334-715-6 (print)  
ISBN: 978-1-78063-381-7 (online)

Chandos Information Professional Series ISSN: 2052-210X (print) and ISSN: 2052-2118 (online)  
Library of Congress Control Number: 2013942533

© S. Ovadia, 2013

British Library Cataloguing-in-Publication Data.

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in or introduced into a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form, or by any means (electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise) without the prior written permission of the Publishers. This publication may not be lent, resold, hired out or otherwise disposed of by way of trade in any form of binding or cover other than that in which it is published without the prior consent of the Publishers. Any person who does any unauthorised act in relation to this publication may be liable to criminal prosecution and civil claims for damages.

The Publishers make no representation, express or implied, with regard to the accuracy of the information contained in this publication and cannot accept any legal responsibility or liability for any errors or omissions.

The material contained in this publication constitutes general guidelines only and does not represent to be advice on any particular matter. No reader or purchaser should act on the basis of material contained in this publication without first taking professional advice appropriate to their particular circumstances. All screenshots in this publication are the copyright of the website owner(s), unless indicated otherwise.

Typeset by Domex e-Data Pvt. Ltd., India

Printed in the UK and USA.

Printed and bound in Great Britain by 4edge Ltd, Hockley, Essex.

# The Librarian's Guide to Academic Research in the Cloud

**CHANDOS**  
**INFORMATION PROFESSIONAL SERIES**

Series Editor: Ruth Rikowski  
(email: Rikowskigr@aol.com)

Chandos' new series of books is aimed at the busy information professional. They have been specially commissioned to provide the reader with an authoritative view of current thinking. They are designed to provide easy-to-read and (most importantly) practical coverage of topics that are of interest to librarians and other information professionals. If you would like a full listing of current and forthcoming titles, please visit our website, [www.chandospublishing.com](http://www.chandospublishing.com), email [wp@woodheadpublishing.com](mailto:wp@woodheadpublishing.com) or telephone +44 (0) 1223 499140.

**New authors:** we are always pleased to receive ideas for new titles; if you would like to write a book for Chandos, please contact Dr Glyn Jones on [gjones@chandospublishing.com](mailto:gjones@chandospublishing.com) or telephone +44 (0) 1993 848726.

**Bulk orders:** some organisations buy a number of copies of our books. If you are interested in doing this, we would be pleased to discuss a discount. Please email [wp@woodheadpublishing.com](mailto:wp@woodheadpublishing.com) or telephone +44 (0) 1223 499140.

Evernote is a trademark of Evernote Corporation and used under a license.

Microsoft screenshots used with permission from Microsoft. Microsoft, Windows and the Windows logo are either registered trademarks or trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and/or other countries.

Yahoo! Notepad and Yahoo! Messenger screenshots are reproduced with permission of Yahoo! Inc. ©2012 Yahoo! Inc. YAHOO! and the YAHOO! logo are registered trademarks of Yahoo! Inc.

Dedicated to Jenny,  
my sunshine in the clouds

---

## Glossary

<b>AIM</b>	AOL Instant Messenger: one of the earliest real-time chat tools, which is still used today. AIM exists as a client and as a cloud-based chat tool
<b>Apps</b>	Short for applications, the term usually applies to software for mobile devices and tablets. It is also sometimes used to refer to website or browser enhancements. For example, the Chrome browser store calls its browser extensions apps.
<b>BibTeX</b>	The citation file format associated with the LaTeX markup language. BibTeX allows LaTeX users to integrate references into the larger work. Many subscription databases, as well as free tools, such as Google Scholar, allow users to export citations in BibTeX. Most citation managers allow users to import BibTeX citations.
<b>Bookmarklet</b>	A web browser bookmark that can be used to import web page metadata into a cloud-based tool. Where most bookmarks bring users to a page, bookmarklets bring page data to a tool.



CalDAV	A standard for web-based calendars, the format allows users to sync calendars across devices, both client- and web-based.
Client	Downloaded software used to interface with a cloud-based service. Many cloud services allow users to interact either via a client or via a web browser.
.doc	The Microsoft file format for word-processed documents.
.docx	The current Microsoft file format for word-processed documents (as of Word 2007).
DOI	Digital object identifier: a unique alphanumeric string, which can be used to locate academic content online, using the CrossRef service ( <a href="http://www.crossref.org">www.crossref.org</a> ). Users with an article DOI can enter it into CrossRef, where they'll be taken to the article, assuming they're entitled to access.
.ics	The iCalendar file format. Many web- and client-based calendars allow users to import and export data in this format.
IM	Instant messaging: the process of real-time text chat, usually between two people.
iOS	Apple's mobile operating system, used on iPhones and iPads.
IRB	A college- or university-wide committee that reviews and approves all research involving humans.
IRC	Internet Relay Chat: a protocol that allows users to chat either as a group or

	one-on-one. Users communicate by connecting to specific IRC servers. Once connected to a server, users communicate in areas called rooms.
<b>ISBN</b>	International Standard Book Number: a unique number used to identify books.
<b>JSON</b>	JavaScript Object Notation: a commonly used format for web-based data. Certain cloud-based tools allow users to export their data in this format, which is human-readable.
<b>LaTeX</b>	A markup language used to format documents, usually equation-driven scholarship, but not exclusive to it.
<b>Metadata</b>	A broad term for subject headings used to describe electronic data. They frequently include fields such as title, author, and publication date.
<b>.mht</b>	A file format used to represent entire captured web pages in one file, including images. Users saving a web page in Internet Explorer will wind up with an .mht file, which becomes a locally-hosted version of the saved page.
<b>.odt</b>	The OpenDocument text document format: commonly used in open source word processors such as LibreOffice and Apache OpenOffice (formerly OpenOffice.org).
<b>Operating system</b>	The software used to control computer hardware. Examples include Windows 7,

Mac OS X, and Linux. Mobile operating systems include Android and iOS.

<b>PDF</b>	Portable document format: PDFs are files that cannot be edited in the same way as traditional text-based, word-processed documents. Instead, they are more designed to preserve the formatting of a document, so the document renders consistently across software and hardware.
<b>PMID</b>	PubMed Identifier: the unique number assigned to PubMed database documents.
<b>RIS</b>	A citation file format. Certain subscription collections allow users to export citations in this format and many citation management tools are able to import these files.
<b>RSS</b>	Rich Site Summary: allows users to import content across sites into a centralized reader. Many subscription databases allow users to create RSS feeds of searches, with search results showing up in the centralized reader.
<b>.rtf</b>	Rich Text Format: a common and portable word-processed document format that tends to work well across different word processors.
<b>.sxw</b>	The precursor to the OpenDocument format, these kinds of word-processed files are still seen as an option in many open source word processors, such as LibreOffice and Apache OpenOffice.

<b>.txt</b>	The file extension for a text file: these very portable files support very little formatting, but can be opened with a multitude of tools across devices.
<b>.wpd</b>	The file extension used to indicate WordPerfect documents.
<b>XML</b>	Extensible Markup Language: a language used to describe web content. While most users do not work with XML directly, XML drives a lot of web-based tools, making it easy for information to be transmitted and shared.

---

## Acknowledgements

The exploration of some of the ideas discussed in this book began as part of my work as “Internet Connections” columnist for the journal *Behavioral and Social Sciences Librarian*. I am very grateful to that journal, and to its editor, Professor Lisa Romero, for the opportunity it gave me to think about the role of cloud-based tools in academic work, and I’m grateful for this platform to expand the ideas. I am also indebted to my colleagues at LaGuardia Community College Library Media Resources Center for their kindness and support. I am especially indebted to my chair, Professor Jane Devine, who cleared a path that allowed me to finish this project.

This book would not have been possible without the new faculty reassignment leave negotiated by the Professional Staff Congress, the CUNY faculty union.

---

## About the author

**Steven Ovadia** is Associate Professor/Web Services Librarian at LaGuardia Community College, City University of New York (CUNY). He frequently writes about how users interact with information in an online context. He is the Internet Connection columnist for *Behavioral & Social Sciences Librarian* and his work has been published in the *Journal of Academic Librarianship*, *Library Philosophy and Practice*, and *Journal of Web Librarianship*. Steven has an MLIS from Palmer School of Library and Information Science, and an MA in Applied Social Research from Queens College, CUNY.

Steven Ovadia can be contacted at: [sovadia@lagcc.cuny.edu](mailto:sovadia@lagcc.cuny.edu)

---

# Contents

<i>List of figures</i>	<i>xiii</i>
<i>Glossary</i>	<i>xv</i>
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	<i>xxi</i>
<i>About the author</i>	<i>xxiii</i>
<b>1 Introduction to the cloud</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2 Capturing information</b>	<b>11</b>
Delicious	13
Pinboard	15
Diigo	17
Browser bookmark syncing	19
Evernote	21
Springpad	24
Postponed reading services	26
OneNote	29
Conclusion	31
<b>3 Capturing and managing scholarly information</b>	<b>33</b>
How do researchers keep track of scholarly research?	35
RefWorks	35
Mendeley	39
Zotero	43
CiteULike	45
EndNote	47

	Papers	49
	Subscription databases	52
	BibTeX	55
	Conclusion	56
<b>4</b>	<b>Storing files in the cloud</b>	<b>59</b>
	Dropbox	60
	SpiderOak	66
	Google Drive	68
	Box	70
	Ubuntu One	73
	SugarSync	75
	SkyDrive	76
	ownCloud	78
	iCloud	79
	Conclusion	80
<b>5</b>	<b>Writing in the cloud</b>	<b>83</b>
	Google Drive	85
	Microsoft Word Web App	89
	Zoho Writer	91
	PBworks	92
	Simplenote	95
	Yahoo! Notepad	97
	Sharing files	98
	Conclusion	100
<b>6</b>	<b>Staying organized</b>	<b>103</b>
	Web-based calendars	104
	Remember the Milk	109
	Basecamp	111
	Google Tasks	114



Trello	116
Asana	117
Mac productivity	119
Conclusion	122
<b>7 Communicating</b>	<b>127</b>
Managing email	128
Instant messaging	132
Video chat	137
IRC	139
Conclusion	143
<b>8 Sharing</b>	<b>147</b>
Blogs	148
Microblogs	155
Nameplates	161
Conclusion	163
<b>9 The future of the cloud</b>	<b>167</b>
Consolidation of features	168
Consolidation of customers	170
Consolidation of services	172
Return to local services	173
Thin clients	175
The rise of Linux	176
Devices	177
Conclusion	179
<b>References</b>	<b>183</b>
<b>Index</b>	<b>187</b>