Finding theses in iDiscover

1. Finding theses by author’s name

- Change ‘All Libraries/Collections’ to ‘Books’ in the drop-down section of the search bar.

- Type author’s name and department keyword, press ‘Return’ or click on

- The result you want will say ‘Order in Manuscripts Reading Room (Not borrowable) (PhD…)’

Troubleshooting

- Because Cambridge theses are classed as books in iDiscover not all the results you get will be theses.
- If you cannot find the thesis you want in the catalogue please ask at the Manuscripts Reading Room service desk or email mss@lib.cam.ac.uk
- Recently completed theses may be uncatalogued but will be available for consultation if they have been deposited in the University Library by Student Registry.
- Theses approved before 1970 are being added to the catalogue but many are still only listed in a card catalogue in the Manuscripts Reading Room.
2. Browsing for theses by subject

- Select the ‘ADVANCED SEARCH’ option.

- Change ‘All Libraries/Collections’ to ‘Books’, ‘Any field’ to ‘Author/creator’, and ‘contains’ to ‘is (exact)’.

- Type in the relevant faculty or department for your subject area and click on.

- You can also do a simple search, but this may result in more hits.
- You can then refine your results using the drop-down lists.

Troubleshooting

- Because Cambridge theses are classed as books in iDiscover not all the results you get will be theses.
- Keywords can help narrow down your search, providing the keyword appears somewhere in the catalogue record!
- Cambridge department and faculty names have changed occasionally over the years and some are not catalogued in the form of ‘University of Cambridge. Department…’. A list of departments, faculties and affiliated institutions listed in the ‘Author/creator’ field can be found here.