

Search and Browse Tutorial

PRISMS can be used as a delivery platform for the tens of thousands of texts that are included. As with most full text databases, there is a simple search, advanced search and filters.

In the simple search, you can restrict your search to common fields (title, author etc.) or to the full text.

In the advanced search, you can combine multiple search fields, use Boolean search (AND, OR, NOT), and wildcards.

For example, I can search for the title *Clarissa*, by Richardson, with the date range 1747, when it was first published to 1800. There are 26 results in two different languages and three different collections.

In the results list, I have four different options – I can view the work details, I can bookmark the edition – I'll come back to bookmarks in a separate tutorial – I can see a graph preview of the work – this is a visualisation of all the processes involved in this particular publication, including its digitisation, provenance and so on. PRISMS allows you to add great detail to this visualisation of book history, which I'll come back to in the tutorial on the graph view. The last option is to add the text to your workbench. Clicking on the work title will also add the text to the workbench, which is where you can view all the different components of the edition, including the full text, facsimile, any related scholarship etc. The workbench functionality is covered in a separate tutorial.

What if you are also interested in another version of *Clarissa* published in French, which isn't yet in PRISMS?

On the top right is the option to create an edition record. This allows you to add texts to PRISMS. This is private to you, although you do have the option to publish your additions to the wider community – something else that will be covered in more detail in a separate tutorial.

For now, let's go to the BNF catalogue, to the record for the text we want to add, and copy the title.

Going back to PRISMS, we can paste in the title, and then click "Find Match" – this is to avoid duplication if a title is actually in PRISMS after all. As there are no matches, we can go with the title we pasted in. For the author, there are several Samuel Richardsons in the system already. I'm going to match it to the wikidata entry, as I can be sure this is the right one. Finally, the edition isn't born digital, it's an edition of something that was originally in print, so we leave that option as no.

After clicking submit, you will see a list of records that you have created, with the option to add to the workbench. I'm going to click add to workbench, as it is in the workbench that I will be able to add the link to the facsimile held by the BNF. I'll cover how to do that in the tutorial on the workbench functionality, so please join me for that, to find out more about PRISMS!