Where in the world? Finding research materials outside of NYU

We might not have it.
Why confine yourself to using only materials that we own? Graduate level work requires that you use resources from wherever they may be. This session is built to give you a quick understanding of tools you can use to find materials at other libraries throughout the city, state and country (and sometimes farther), and to give you some strategies for obtaining these materials.

What is WorldCat?
WorldCat (short for “world catalog”) allows you to search the holdings of libraries around the world (including NYU). It’s a great way to identify materials for your research beyond what NYU Libraries may own. There are actually two versions of WorldCat, a library-style database via the Firstsearch interface, and WorldCat.org, an open web version of the same data. Both have different strengths, and may appeal to users for different reasons. Don’t worry, the data is the same in them.

Accessing WorldCat on Firstsearch (library version)
1. Go to the library homepage at library.nyu.edu
2. Click on Databases A-Z
3. Click on Articles & Databases
4. Enter “worldcat” into the search box
5. Click on WorldCat (OCLC)

Hints for Searching WorldCat
1. Use the Advanced search
2. Use AND to narrow your search. Use OR to expand your search (useful for synonyms)
3. Limits are useful if you are looking materials in a specific format and/or language.

Getting Materials
Need the item quickly?
Click on the Libraries Worldwide link to see if any of our partner libraries owns the item. It may be possible to either check out the item and/or view the item at one of these libraries.

Have some time?
1. From within the item record, click on the button or the NYU Libraries link.
2. In your popup window, click on Bobst Library Interlibrary Loan
3. If prompted, select your institutional affiliation and log in to your e-Shelf.
4. Select the type of material you are requesting from the list in the sidebar on the left, and fill in as much information as possible.

Exporting and Saving Records
1. Checkmark the items you want.
2. When you navigate away from that page, it will add them to the marked records area.
3. When you are ready to view all the records you saved, hit Marked Records
4. You have 3 options for your marked records:
   a. Print
   b. Email
   c. Export to Refworks or Endnote
Accessing the open web version, WorldCat.org

Go to worldcat.org

Hints for Searching WorldCat.org
1. WorldCat.org searches very nicely, but with fewer search controls; just enter your search in the box
2. Use the facets on the left to “drill down” to content you like
3. Relevancy ranked results are returned; click one to see a full record
4. There is also a lot of social computing functionality like tagging, reviews and more.

Getting Materials
1. WorldCat “knows” that you are associated with NYU because you are on campus, but…
2. …you can also make an account and set location preferences so it displays nearby and favorite libraries
3. Or just use the Find a Library link and put your zip code in the box
4. Whether or not you can get in to these libraries depends on several factors
5. Link through to check our holdings
6. ILL is more difficult from WorldCat.org

Exporting and Saving Records
1. Select or create a list using the “Save to” drop-down menu.
2. If you have not yet created an account, you will be prompted to do so.
3. Go to “My Worldcat” and “My lists,” select the list you want.
4. You can print your list or export it into a spreadsheet
5. Or hit “Citations view” and build a bibliography or export in:
   d. HTML
   e. Text
   f. Refworks or Endnote

Other cool features
1. WorldCat.org also supports:
   a. Apps and widgets for facebook etc
   b. Social bookmarking for Del.icio.us, etc.
   c. Firefox, Facebook and Google toolbar add-ons
   d. WorldCat mobile

Getting additional help
- Graduate Student Services Page: http://guides.nyu.edu/grads
- Ask a question via Ask A Librarian: http://library.nyu.edu/ask/
- Find a subject specialist: https://library.nyu.edu/people/?subject_specialties=all
- More library classes: http://nyu.libcal.com/