

# Mount Allison University Libraries

## DATABASE GUIDE

### TERMIUM: The Government of Canada's Linguistic Data Bank

#### Description

Subjects covered	French, English and Spanish terms, definitions and supporting documentation for general terms and terms in many specialized fields including scientific, technical, medical, administrative, etc.
Contents	TERMIUM is a working terminology database of over 3 million English-French records and over 118,000 Spanish terms, with definitions, context, usage examples, linguistic observations and translations, used and created by Government of Canada Translation Bureau terminologists and translators since 1976.
Date	2001
MTA subscription or free?	Available to all MTA library users.
Other info	"Terms" include acronyms, initialisms, abbreviations, official titles, organization names and expressions.

#### How to Access

*TERMIUM* is available on one PC only: Workstation #7 in the bank of computers next to the Reference Desk on the main floor of the R.P. Bell Library. Double-click on the *TERMIUM* icon to start the program.

#### Search Tips

Help	Click on the Help icon for context-sensitive help. There is also a User Guide in a black duo-tang beside the workstation.
Starting a Search	Select the Search Key (the language and portion of the records you want to search): Choose English, French or Spanish TERMS to search by entry terms and phrases, or "headwords".  Enter the full term and click on "GO", or double-click on the term in the Index Display on the left side of the screen. To select several terms from the Index, click on the term to highlight it, then on the right mouse button. You will see an asterisk beside each term selected. Then click on "GO".

<p>Keyword Searching</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Combining Terms</li> <li>• Phrase Searching</li> <li>• Truncation or Wildcards</li> </ul>	<p>The Search Keys: “Words in”... or “Records” are keyword searches.</p> <p>AND (+) is the default, no symbol required. OR = , NOT = !</p> <p>Is not possible in these Search Keys except by selecting a phrase from the Index Display.</p> <p>* is the truncation symbol for zero or more characters. (Searching hous* finds house, housing, houseboat, etc.)</p> <p>? Is the symbol for one character. (Searching wom?n finds women, woman.)</p>
<p>Other tips</p>	<p>If you are not getting any results, try a different Search Key:</p> <p><i>Words in ... Terms:</i> keyword search in headwords</p> <p><i>Words in ... Textual Support:</i> keyword search in definitions,etc.</p> <p><i>Records:</i> keyword search in all parts of a language’s records</p> <p><i>All Terms:</i> searches headwords in all languages</p> <p><i>All Records:</i> keyword search in all parts of all records in all languages.</p>

### Display/Save Results

<p>See full records</p>	<p>Display records by subject domain, or one at a time. Note that a separate record exists for each <i>concept</i>, not for each term.</p>
<p>Print/E-mail records</p>	<p>Workstation #7 is not networked so direct printing or e-mailing is not possible. Records can be saved to a diskette to print or e-mail from another workstation.</p>
<p>Save records</p>	<p>To save as an html file: Click on the page symbol, then “Save As”. Change “Save In” to A: drive and click on SAVE. You can also copy and paste a record to WordPad and then save in WordPerfect or other formats.</p>
<p>Things to watch for</p>	<p>Usage parameters may include:</p> <p><b>Correct, Verified</b> = accepted in Canada, other country if given</p> <p><b>Officially approved</b> = e.g. by internal departmental committee</p> <p><b>Standard</b> = standardized by an official standards committee</p> <p><b>Proposal</b> = by translator or terminologist if couldn’t find source</p> <p>no usage parameter = may be correct, but not yet verified</p> <p><b>Avoid</b> = do not use; e.g. anglicism, old title, etc.</p>

Last Modified Sept. 26, 2003 by Anita Cannon