



8-WEEK MVP ROADMAP (QuickScholar)

Each week has:

- Weekly Deliverable (what must exist by end of week)
 - What to Study
 - What to Build
 - Daily 3-Hour Workflow
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WEEK 1 — Project Setup + Backend Foundations



Deliverable

- GitHub repo created
- FastAPI or Flask backend running
- Basic `/search` endpoint working (returns dummy data)
- Project structure ready



Study

- Flask or FastAPI basics
- REST APIs (GET/POST, JSON responses)
- Python project structure

- Virtual environments & pip
- Git + GitHub basics

Build

- Create backend folder structure
- Setup virtual environment
- Create simple API:
 - `/health`
 - `/search?q=...` (returns fake results for now)
- Test with browser / Postman

Daily Workflow (3h)

- 45 min: Learn (tutorial/docs)
 - 1h30: Code backend setup
 - 45 min: Debug + commit to GitHub
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WEEK 2 — First Real Data Source (Semantic Scholar)

Deliverable

- `/search` endpoint fetches **real data** from Semantic Scholar API
- Returns: title, abstract, authors, year, link

 **Study**

- HTTP requests in Python (`requests` or `httpx`)
- Working with JSON APIs
- Error handling (try/except)
- Reading API docs

 **Build**

- Integrate Semantic Scholar API
- Parse response into your data model
- Return clean JSON to frontend
- Handle:
 - No results
 - API errors

 **Daily Workflow**

- 45 min: Read API docs + learn requests
 - 1h30: Implement + test API integration
 - 45 min: Clean code + logging + commit
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 **WEEK 3 — Add Second Source + Normalization** **Deliverable**

- Search pulls from **2 sources** (e.g., Semantic Scholar + CrossRef)
- Results are **merged and normalized** into one format

Study

- Working with multiple APIs
- Data normalization
- Basic ranking / sorting
- Python lists, dicts, sorting

Build

- Add CrossRef API integration

Create a common result format:

```
{  
    title, summary, authors, year, source, link  
}  
  
•  
• Merge results  
  
• Sort by relevance or year
```

Daily Workflow

- 30 min: Learn
- 2h: Code integration + merge logic
- 30 min: Test + refactor

WEEK 4 — Filters + Performance Basics

Deliverable

- Filters working:
 - By source
 - By year
- Backend handles:
 - `?source=...`
 - `?year=...`

Study

- Query parameters in APIs
- Async basics (`async / await`) OR simple optimization
- Caching basics (optional)

Build

- Add filter logic in backend
- Update `/search` endpoint to accept filters
- Improve error handling
- Add simple in-memory cache (optional)

Daily Workflow

- 30 min: Learn
 - 2h: Implement filters + test
 - 30 min: Clean + commit
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WEEK 5 — Save & Export (MVP Storage)



Deliverable

- User can:
 - Save results
 - Export to CSV / JSON
- SQLite database connected



Study

- SQLite with Python
- Basic SQL or ORM (SQLAlchemy)
- File export in Python (csv, json)



Build

- Create DB schema:
 - saved_results table
- Add endpoints:
 - `/save`

- `/export`
- Implement CSV + JSON export

Daily Workflow

- 45 min: Learn DB basics
 - 1h30: Implement save/export
 - 45 min: Test + fix bugs
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WEEK 6 — Simple Web UI (MVP Frontend)

Deliverable

- Web page with:
 - Search box
 - Results list
 - Filter options
 - Save / Export buttons

Study

- HTML + basic CSS
- Fetch API (JS) OR server-side templates
- Connecting frontend to backend API

Build

- Create simple UI page
- Connect search form to backend
- Display results dynamically
- Add filter UI

Daily Workflow

- 45 min: Learn frontend basics
 - 1h30: Build UI + connect API
 - 45 min: Fix layout + bugs
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WEEK 7 — Testing + Stability

Deliverable

- Core flows tested:
 - Search
 - Filter
 - Save
 - Export
- No crashes in main flow
- Basic unit tests added

Study

- pytest basics
- Writing simple tests
- Logging in Python

Build

- Add tests for:
 - API calls
 - Parsing logic
 - Filters
- Manual testing:
 - Act like a real user
- Fix bugs

Daily Workflow

- 30 min: Learn testing
- 2h: Write tests + fix bugs
- 30 min: Refactor + commit

WEEK 8 — MVP Freeze + Deployment Prep

Deliverable

- MVP feature-complete:

- Search
- Multi-source
- Filters
- Save
- Export
- Web UI
- Deployed or ready to deploy
- README written

Study

- Deployment basics (Render / Fly.io / Heroku)
- Environment variables
- Production vs dev config

Build

- Clean project
- Add README
- Add .env config
- Deploy backend + frontend
- Final bug fixes

Daily Workflow

- 30 min: Learn deployment
- 2h: Deploy + fix issues
- 30 min: Docs + cleanup