

PsycINFO Advanced Search

The best ways to determine good search words. See THESAURUS note.

Sign in for long term storage of results. Use the Folder without signing in to save results from only one session.

Select more than one option in a drop down box by holding down the CTRL key (Command on a Mac) while clicking on the desired options.

Only Full Text within the EBSCO databases. You will lose possible articles by using this; but, it's very convenient.

Articles from scholarly journals only. Not all articles will be peer reviewed.

Another way of limiting to just journals, peer reviewed journals, or types of books, etc.

Limit by age of studied population.

Limit to human or animal studies, male or female subjects.

Limit by methodology of research.

See DISSERTATIONS note below.

Not generally recommended. Use Linked Full Text checkbox above or the Find Article @ SCSU links in the results.

The screenshot shows the PsycINFO Advanced Search interface with the following elements visible:

- Navigation bar: New Search, Thesaurus, Cited References, Library Holdings, More, Sign In to My EBSCOhost, Folder, New Features!, Help.
- Search bar: Searching: PsycINFO, Choose Databases >, Suggest Subject Terms, Search, Clear.
- Search Options: Search modes (Boolean/Phrase, Find all my search terms, Find any of my search terms, SmartText Searching), Apply related words.
- Limit your results: Linked Full Text, Peer Reviewed, Publication Year from, Publisher, English, Age Groups, Intended Audience, Book Type, Classification Codes.
- Advanced Search filters: Publication Type, Language, Population Group, Document Type, Methodology, Exclude Dissertations, CSU Journals.

THESAURUS: PsycINFO uses a “controlled vocabulary” which chooses a particular term for a particular concept; example: “adolescent pregnancy” rather than “teenage pregnancy”. All citations are assigned subject terms, which end up be a very reliable way to search.

DISSERTATIONS: Citations for Ph.D. dissertations and Master’s theses are listed as “Dissertations Abstracts International” and look like journal article citations. Dissertations and theses may be available full text in the Digital Dissertations: try searching by author and/or title.

PsycArticles vs. PsycINFO: PsycArticles is a subset of PsycINFO that includes only full text articles from a few dozen professional journals. It is excellent for quick searches on more general topics. PsycINFO is much more comprehensive and extensive. You can do a pseudo-PsycArticles search in PsycINFO by limiting (in the Advanced Search) to full text and peer-reviewed. The number of results will be greater, because more journals will be included.

PsycINFO Results

The screenshot shows a search results page for PsycINFO. The search criteria are: `(((MM "Blacks") and (MM "Major Depression" OR MM...))`. The results are sorted by Relevance. The page shows 5 results. Annotations point to various features:

- Limit to peer reviewed Journals.**: A filter option in the 'Limit your results' sidebar.
- Also sort by date.**: A dropdown menu in the 'Sort by' section.
- Narrow Results by**: A sidebar menu with options like 'Source Types', 'All Results', 'All Journals', and 'Peer Reviewed Journals'.
- Access non-EBSCO full text articles. (Not everything will have full text available.)**: Points to the 'Find Article @ SCSU' link.
- Images: charts, photos, graphs, etc. A visual clue to research results.**: Points to the image thumbnails for the second result.
- Click Full Text links for full article. PDF is a graphical format that looks just like the published article in print. HTML is a more standard web format—some graphics may not display as originally formatted. HTML is excellent for quick views, slow connections, and search (via Edit-Find in your browser.) Use PDF for printing and fully formatted display.**: Points to the 'HTML Full Text' and 'PDF Full Text' links.
- Save reference for later review, export (Refworks), email, or printing. Create a MyEBSCO account and login for long term storage.**: Points to the 'Add to folder' link.
- Easy slider or year entry for date selection.**: Points to the 'Filter by Publication Date' slider.
- Click to update search options, such as methodology, document type, or full text.**: Points to the 'Update Results' button.
- Click the linked title for a more extensive record for the citation, including abstract (when available), subject terms, email, and export (Refworks).**: Points to the article title link.

Warning: APA citations are not always formatted properly by EBSCO. There are especially problems with capitalization in the article titles. Always double check any automated formatting.

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