Finding Articles – A Basic Guide
Start by connecting to University Libraries Web site at library.kent.edu

This guide explains steps for using three resources to find articles in psychology: PsycINFO, Google Scholar, and the Journal Finder.

To start do these two things to connect to the psychology database, then follow the sample steps below.

- On the Library web site, under “Research Tools” click on “Databases”. Then on the next screen, click the “P”.
- On the next screen, find and click on “PsycINFO (EBSCO Interface)”.

Steps for basic PsycINFO searching and obtaining copies of articles

1. State your topic, and pick out keywords. Sample topic: What effect does watching violence on TV, etc. have on children? Tip: You may change the wording of your topic as you see actual published articles related to the way you first form the topic for your paper.

2. Typing in your search. Do read all info in this step before going to step 3. Just below I list a simple sample search. I also list a second, more complex search, on the sample topic.

Simple sample search. On the PsycINFO search screen, in the box under "Searching PsycINFO" type this: children and television and violence. To limit searches to English language, peer-reviewed publications (before you click “Search”), scroll down the screen to find and click boxes for English language and Peer Reviewed. After choosing English and Peer Reviewed, scroll up or down the screen to click the "Search" button. You will see results and can move to step 3 below. Do also look at the second sample search.

Second sample search. Type this (impact or effect*) in the first search box. This (view* or watch*) in the second box. And this (TV or television or video* or media) in the third box. Before clicking search, to the right of the third box click on the plus (+) to add a fourth box. Then type in violence* and children in that fourth box. Choose the Peer Reviewed and English limits, and then click Search. Explanation: This second search has more words than just the keywords picked out from the sample topic above. You see words that are similar to the Keywords from the sample topic. Different authors may use different words to refer to the same research topic. In the search, words similar in meaning are joined with “or” with parentheses around them. Also notice that some words have an asterisk (this is “truncation”). The * tells the computer to find variations on the word (e.g. watch or watching or watched). Again, always combine your search terms or phrases with “and”; this increases the chance that you will be looking at articles that have all of your search terms (and so you have a better chance that the articles are about your topic).

3. Choosing articles. As you look at the results, if you see an article title that seems good, click on the title. You will then see a brief abstract (summary) with more detail about the article. If you want the full article then you can take steps to access the article (see Step 4). If don’t think the article can help, then on the screen find and click “Results List” to go back to your search results listing.

4. Getting full text of the articles. Here are four links that might be on the screen when you are looking at a result that you like.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Four Links to full text articles in your PsycINFO searches</th>
<th>What the links do. And using the Find It! button.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PDF Full Text</td>
<td>The PDF, LibKey, and Full Text Open Access links will most likely take you to a screen with the full article as published (with layout, page numbers, and graphics, etc.) The HTML link can have all of that content, but sometimes does not.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LibKey Instant PDF</td>
<td>If you do not see any of these, then find and click on LibKey Instant PDF. This will take you to a screen that may have the full text links. Look under “Full Text Finder Results” Persist until you get the article. If you click on “pdf” to get to an article, and you are asked to provide money, KSU may not have access just yet; or, maybe we don’t subscribe to that journal. Also, when you click on &quot;Find It&quot;, in the next screen you sometimes may not see a link to the full article. For example, when you click on Find It, in the next window on the lower left see an option to request electronic copy for that article. Also see library.kent.edu/ill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full Text Open Access</td>
<td>(TV or television or video* or media)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HTML Full Text</td>
<td>(view* or watch*)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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A few extra tips

- Do note the year the article was published; you may want recent articles. ALSO to find other related articles, when you have the full article in your hands that you think is good, always at least glance at the references at the end of the article. You may find articles that you think are even better than the one you have in your hands.
- Do ASK if questions. We can help; we may have extra ideas. On library web site find and click the Ask Us button.
- To meet with a librarian, on the Libraries’ web site under “Help”, click on “Meet with a librarian”.
- OFF CAMPUS On the Library web site click on “Help” and then “Connect from off campus”.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES – KENT STATE UNIVERSITY  Paul Fehrman - pfehrman@kent.edu August 13, 2019
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GOOGLE SCHOLAR

1. Connect to Google scholar Web site: scholar.google.com
   TIP if Off campus - connect to library.kent.edu, choose “Databases” and then click G, and then choose Google Scholar.

2. General searching for articles on Google scholar (using Advanced Google Scholar)
   a. On the Google Scholar search screen, on the left find and click on . Then at left click on “Advanced Search”.
   b. In the box next to “with all of the words”, type in the words violence impact children.
   c. In the box next to “with at least one of the words”, type in the words tv television video media
   d. To search click the “magnifying glass” button.
   e. Tips: on the results screen find “Any Time” and maybe choose to limit to current years. Also for quick access to articles you might look for hits that have “pdf” or “html” links on the right side of the search result screen. Or look for “Find it @Kent State” or other full text links; these are likely links to the full text that we have here at Kent (OhioLINK). Also, maybe use the “Related articles” links.

3. Cited Reference searching in Google Scholar - three approaches (a. and b. and c.).
   a. When you do a search in Google Scholar, it is not unusual to see a link at the bottom of some of the hits that says “Cited by”. If you click on that link for an article that you think is good, then you will be taken to a screen that lists the articles that have cited or *used the article you think is good. If you do look at any of those articles you will still have to decide how those articles are really related to the article you think is good; for example, are the articles supporting, or giving criticism of the article you think is good, or expanding on the research area, etc.
   b. You may also see a link that says “Web of Science”. Click that link to go to a screen that shows who has cited that article according to the Web of Science database/resource.
   c. In Google Scholar you can also type in the exact title of an article (put it in quotes). If the search finds your chosen article, it may well list other articles that have used or cited it, etc. As discussed in a. just above, you can decide if and how to use those articles.

JOURNAL FINDER

How to connect to the Journal Finder:

1. First, connect to KSU site (www.kent.edu) then click “Academics”, and then choose “Libraries”. You can also connect to the University Libraries home page: library.kent.edu

2. On the Libraries home page, you will see a link for the Journal Finder.

Why and How to use the Journal Finder – three approaches.

1. If you know the name of a journal that is likely to have articles on your topic, you can connect to the Journal Finder. Then type in the name of the journal where you see “Title begins with”. On the results screen look for a link to the online version of the journal; it will say something like “from 1996 to present”. If there is an online version, then you can proceed to connect to it and browse its articles online. If you find an article that seems good, it will be in full text that you can save to your computer. Note: if we only have “Print” copies of the journal, you can have scanned (pdfs) of the article sent to you – see info on this page: library.kent.edu/ill

2. If you know the title of a specific article in a journal, you can use the Journal Finder. For example you may want this particular article: “Developing an evidence base in clinical psychology” And it is in the journal “Journal of clinical psychology”, and it was published in 2006. Type in the name of the journal. You can then browse or search to get directly to the article. You can also search for articles that you know were published by a certain author in the journal.

3. If you want to search in journals that have a term in their name, you can type in a term. For example typing in “depression” gets you a list of journals with the word depression in the name of the journal. Then you can pick a journal and do a simple search in that journal. For example, searching for “sleep” in the journal “Depression and Anxiety” results in articles with the term “sleep” in that journal.

APA Style

From the University Libraries home page you can click on “Citation Tools”. This goes to a page of resources on different styles including APA. There is a University Libraries guide that specifically covers APA style. See libguides.library.kent.edu/apa