The Online Library
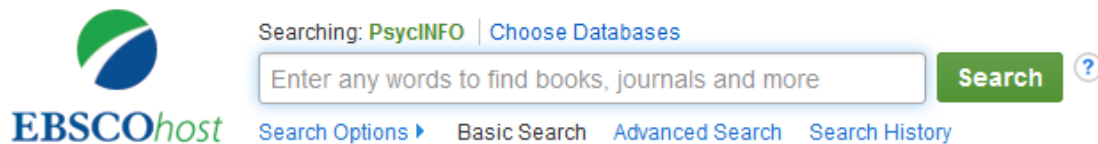Senate House Library, University of London

Quick Start Guide- PsycINFO

PsycINFO, from the American Psychological Association (APA), contains more than 2 million citations and summaries of scholarly journal articles, book chapters, books, and dissertations, all in psychology and related disciplines, dating as far back as the 1800s.
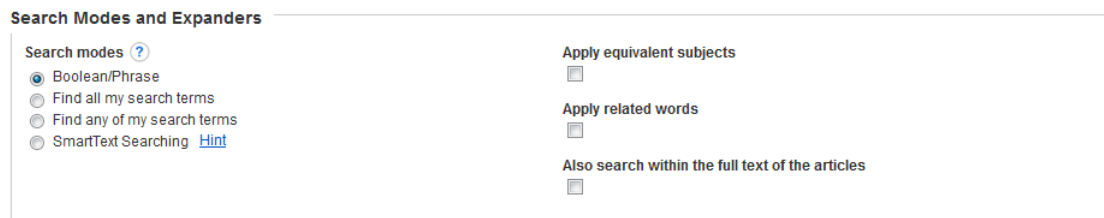
This guide is intended to help you start searching the database and to save, print or email articles you find. You can get further help by clicking on this icon (?) while you are in the database.

Searching

Searching: **PsycINFO** | Choose Databases

[Enter any words to find books, journals and more]   **Search** (?)

EBSCOhost

Search Options ▸   Basic Search   Advanced Search   Search History

There are Basic and Advanced Search options. Take a few moments to have a look at these different screens, and see which works best for you and the research you are doing.

The Basic Search Screen

Search Modes and Expanders

Search modes (?)
- ⦿ Boolean/Phrase
- ○ Find all my search terms
- ○ Find any of my search terms
- ○ SmartText Searching Hint

Apply equivalent subjects
☐

Apply related words
☐

Also search within the full text of the articles
☐

Search Modes
Within the Basic search screen you can conduct your search in different ways using the search modes. Click the (?) icon within the database for further help.

Boolean/Phrase – If this is selected you can use AND, OR and NOT in the search box to refine your search. It also allows you to use quotation marks for an exact phrase.

Find all of my search terms – adds AND to all search terms entered (e.g. web AND accessibility).

Find any of my search terms – adds OR to all search terms entered (e.g. web OR accessibility).

SmartText Searching - You can copy and paste chunks of text (up to 5000 characters including spaces) to search for results.

Apply equivalent subjects – when your search term matches a known concept, the search is expanded to include that concept. For example if you search 'workplace injury', the search will also include results for 'work-related injuries' and 'occupational injuries'.

Apply related words - includes synonyms (words with the same or a similar meaning) and plurals of search terms.

Also search within the full text of articles - select this to look for your terms in the whole article not just the abstract and citation.

Limit your results

You can narrow down your search by placing limits on it.

- **Linked Full Text** – select if you want to search the texts of articles in other EBSCO databases
- **Publication Name** - if you want to limit your results to a specific journal, put the name of the journal
- **Published Date** or **Publication Year** – use if you want to search a specific time range
- **English** – select if you only want materials in English
- **References Available** – select to only see articles that list all the sources used and consulted when writing the article
- **Peer Reviewed** – select to only see articles that have been peer reviewed, a key measure of how academically rigorous an article is

Select from the drop down menus and hold down the 'Ctrl' key to select more than one. Use these to tailor your search to fit the topic you are studying, for example you can search for studies or articles about a particular age group.

Advanced Search

Advanced Search allows you to narrow or expand your search results more easily by using AND, OR or NOT. You can also select a field, such as title, author or keywords. Click the + symbol to add more rows.

As with the Basic Search you can use the 'Search Modes' and the 'Limit Your Results' feature. With Advanced Search, there are more limiters you can use, such as 'Methodology' and 'Exclude Dissertations'.

<u>Cited references</u>

You can find articles that cite a particular article by clicking on **Cited References** at the top of the page. Once you have entered the details and clicked search, a list of citations will appear.

Articles without check boxes have not been cited by other articles, but those with check boxes have been cited. Check the check boxes and click **Find Citing Articles** at the top to see the articles which cite this article.

Viewing, printing and saving

From the results list click the title of the article you want to print. The article below is available in 2 different formats. Click on **HTML Full Text** or **PDF Full text** on the left side of the page to open the file.

On the right side of the page there are several tools you can use, such as printing, emailing and saving the article. Click on **Cite** to see how to cite the article according to different referencing systems. Click on **Export** to export the citation of the article to reference management software such as EndNote.

PDFs

Once you have opened the PDF you should see a toolbar at the top of the page.

Click here to search for specific words in the article

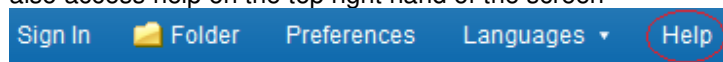Use these controls to go to a particular page

Zoom in or out to make the article easier to read

Click here to print the article

Click here to dowload the article to your computer

Further help

If you need any help whilst using PsycARTICLES click on the question mark icon ⑦ or you can also access help on the top right hand of the screen

Or please contact the Online Library on
+44 (0)20 7862 8478 (between 09.00 and 17.00 GMT), by email on
OnlineLibrary@shl.lon.ac.uk
or by the enquiries form at
http://onlinelibrary.london.ac.uk/about/contact-us