

PSYCINFO

PsycINFO is an index of psychological, social, behavioural, and health sciences literature published from 1806 onwards. It is updated weekly and contains references to scholarly journal articles, books, chapters, and dissertations (99% of the journals indexed are peer-reviewed). *PsycINFO* includes the contents of all 70+ electronic journals in *PsycARTICLES*, an articles database.

PsycINFO and *PsycARTICLES* are produced by the American Psychological Association.

This guide will show you how to search *PsycINFO*, and how to check for the availability of an identified article, or book, in the Library Collection.

HOW TO ACCESS PSYCINFO

PsycINFO is available on and off campus, via *QuickSearch* or the *databases A-Z* on the Library Home Page at <http://www.bath.ac.uk/library/> You will need your Computing Services username and password to connect to *PsycINFO*.

SEARCHING PSYCINFO

KEYWORD SEARCH

De-select the *Map Term to Subject Heading* option (more about this option later). You can combine key words/key phrases in the search box as follows:

AND searches for documents containing both terms e.g. *motivation AND assertion*.

OR searches for documents containing one or both terms e.g. *motivation OR assertion*.

NOT searches for documents containing the first term, but not the second e.g. *motivation NOT assertion*.

You can also truncate words by using \$ or * e.g. *assert\$* will find *assert, asserts, asserting, assertion, assertions* etc.

In a keyword search, *PsycINFO* will look for the search term(s) in the title, abstract, heading word, table of contents, and key concepts.

AUTHOR SEARCH

Keyword search is the default search option. To search for documents by a specific author, choose the *Author* option above the search box. Enter the author's last name, a space, and first initial or name if you know it e.g. *Griffin Christine*. Select *Search*, choose the relevant name(s) from the list of results, and then select *Search for Selected Terms* to retrieve references to documents by the author.

JOURNAL TITLE SEARCH

To search for articles published in a specific journal, select the *Journal* option above the search box and type the words of a journal title. Select *Search*, choose the relevant journal titles(s) from the list of results, and then select *Search for Selected Terms*. All of the article records for the chosen journal will be displayed.

SUBJECT HEADINGS SEARCH

In *Advanced Ovid Search* you can search for documents using the subject headings that describe the content of each document. This avoids the need to use (or know) all the keywords/phrases, synonyms, and spelling variations (e.g. behaviour, or behaviour) that may appear in a document.

- Select *Map Term to Subject Heading*.
- Enter a search term/phrase e.g. *schizophrenia*. Select *Search*.
- Choose the relevant subject heading(s) from the list by ticking the checkbox beside each, or by selecting the blue subject heading(s) to view narrower, related and broader subject headings.
- Select *Explode* to include results that contain the subject heading plus all results that contain the narrower (more specific) subject heading(s), or choose *Focus* to concentrate on documents where the selected subject heading is the main topic, or select both *Explode* and *Focus*.
- You can combine subject headings by using either *OR* or *AND* from the drop-down menu at the top of the page.
- Select *Continue* to retrieve results for the search.

SEARCHING PSYCARTICLES JOURNALS

Limit your search, or your search results, to full text articles by selecting *PsycARTICLES Journals* in the *Limits* section.

REFINING YOUR SEARCH

Refine your search by combining previous searches. To do this, select two or more checkboxes in the *Search History* box and then select one of the following:

AND retrieves documents that include all words/phrases in the previous searches that you have selected.

OR retrieves documents that include one or more words/phrases in selected previous searches.

VIEWING YOUR RESULTS

Select *Complete Reference* to view a summary/abstract. Select the *Links* button with the blue-and-white University logo: a *Full text available at...* link will appear on the *Links* web page if the Library subscribes to the online source of the document. A link to the Library Catalogue will also appear on the *Links* page, so you will also be able to check if the Library holds a paper version of the source (not all books and journals are available online).

SAVING YOUR RESULTS

To save results: Select the checkbox beside the result number, choose *Export* from the row of options at the top of the results list, and follow the instructions.

To set up email alerts & save search histories: Select *Save Search History* in the *Search History* box, create a *Personal Account*, and then name your saved search. If you want to receive emails when relevant documents are added to *PsycINFO*, choose *AutoAlert (SDI)* from the *Type* menu, and then select *Save*.

To export results to Endnote: Select the results for export, choose the *Export* option, select *Export to EndNote*, and follow the instructions. For more information about EndNote go to <http://www.bath.ac.uk/library/infoskills/endnote/>

MORE HELP REQUIRED?

Select the *Help* link on each *PsycINFO* page, or contact your Librarian (<http://www.bath.ac.uk/library/help/>).

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Information correct at time of going to print