

# PsycArticles Database

## Introduction

The **PsycARTICLES database**, from the American Psychological Association (APA), is a definitive source of full-text, peer-reviewed scholarly and scientific research articles in psychology. The database contains approximately 150,000 articles from over 70 journals published by the APA, and its imprint the Educational Publishing Foundation (EPF), and from other allied organizations. The coverage is from 1894 to the present.

### **\*Accessing - A How to**    *\* Please read both pages.*

This database is accessed by visiting the DSCC homepage at [www.dsc.edu](http://www.dsc.edu). Click on the **LRC/Library** link, then go to the heading of **DSCC Databases** and click on the arrow for a dropdown menu. Click on the name **PsycArticles** and select **GO**. PsycArticles is one of the EBSCO Host databases.

Log in to the big **DSCC blue screen** with your student username and password, if it asks you.

### **Searching - How to set up your search screen for optimal results**

In the set-up search screen, select from the following choices for best results:

Choose the ☒ **Advanced Search** option – it has the same search options as the Basic search but in addition, you can ☒ **eliminate book reviews** and ☒ **eliminate non-article content** from your results.

Always check ☒ **Full Text**.

☒ **Boolean searching** uses general subject terms or exact phrases when combined with AND, OR, NOT to narrow or broaden your search results. Avoid using common *Stop Words* such as: for, in, on, to, the in any searches.

☒ **Find all of my search terms** specifically uses AND with all of your search words

☒ **Find any of my search terms** specifically uses OR with all of your search words

☒ **Wild card** punctuation marks such as a ? replaces an unknown character(s) and # inserts an extra character(s) to catch multiple spellings of a search term.

☒ **Truncation** = using \* will search all forms of a search term to catch various word endings.


“ ” A phrase enclosed in quotation marks searches for the exact phrase as it appears within the quotation marks, excluding any stop words.

☒ **Apply related words** and ☒ **Search within the full text of the articles** can be used to broaden or expand your search results.

Search terms that are singular will also retrieve articles that contain plural and possessive forms of terms.

☒ **SmartText searching** allows you to copy and paste chunks of text, such as a citation, and it will then summarize your text to create and search relevant terms in abstracts, articles titles, subject headings or descriptors.

## **Important Tips to Remember Re the PsycArticles Database**

**Search Help**  buttons contain suggestions which can be very helpful in guiding you as you use or revise your search terms, depending on your results.

Once in a results list:

See the abstracts (summaries) of the articles to determine relevance by mousing over the icon at the end of each article title

See a listing of other suggested closely related subjects under the article title

Each article is available to view as -----

**HTML** – is preferable, especially if printing is needed

**PDF** – is as it appears in the original journal, does include page numbers

To see the full text of the article, click on the title line

Sometimes there will be suggested narrower terms in **Narrow results by** column to the left of the articles.

Search terms are bolded within each article

Cited research within the text of the articles are live links to the full citations found in the **References**

Return to your original listing of results by clicking **Return to Results List**

**Refine Search** takes you back to your original search screen with your original search terms so that you can revise it without rekeying everything

**Clear** will let you start over

Click on the little piece of paper with the word **Cite** on it to see the full citation for the article

The full citation can be copied and pasted into your paper or word document

Remember to do hanging indent, double space, Times new Roman, and font 12 for all citations

\*Check with your Instructor about whether to use doi numbers (digital object identifiers) or URLs in your citations

This database contains psychological research in the form of:

Clinical case study

Empirical study

Experimental replication

Follow up study

Longitudinal study

Prospective study

Retrospective study

Field study

Literature review

Systematic review

Mathematical model

Meta analysis

Non-clinical case study

Qualitative study

Quantitative study

Treatment outcome/Clinical trial

*Revised March 2012*