How to Find Articles

Use a Journal or Periodical Index

A journal index (also periodical index) is a very helpful tool for finding published articles on your subject of interest. After searching by topic, a journal index will show you in which journal and in which issue an article appears. Since no one has the time to sort through all the thousands of articles published in magazines or academic journals or newspapers, indexes are very useful.

A Few Facts about Journal Indexes

Journal indexes (databases if they’re electronic) are commercially produced so they cover journals that a library may not own. Some journal indexes, such as Academic Search Premier, Lexis/Nexis, cover journals in many fields, while others, such as PsycINFO, Literature Resource Center, only cover journals in a specific field. Journal articles can be scholarly (peer-reviewed articles based on research, e.g. Modern Drama) or popular (usually either news or opinion, e.g. Newsweek). Peer-review is the process by which a piece of scholarship is evaluated and judged for quality and accuracy by other scholars and experts before it is published.

Using the Library Home Page to Find Journals

From the Library Home Page <library.lehman.cuny.edu> click on “Find Articles” and then “Find Articles in Online Databases.” Here you will see a list of over 100 article databases on many subject areas.

Academic Search Premier is an excellent choice for getting started because it provides citations to or full text for over 3,000 scholarly publications covering academic areas of study including social sciences, humanities, education, computer sciences, language and linguistics, arts & literature, medical sciences, and ethnic studies.

To Begin Searching for articles:

- Click on the name of a database, e.g. Academic Search Premier
- Type in your terms on the line(s) given
- Use AND to narrow your search
- Use OR to expand your search
- Too many hits? Try changing the Default Fields. Suggestions – Title, Subject, Abstract
- For further searching tips, check “Help” in any database.
  (see over for search example)
View articles from various sources

Full Text means article is online in database.

Find it! leads to online and print

THE CITATION

HTML Full Text = article is displayed as web page. Charts and tables need to be printed separately and photos are deleted.
PDF Full Text = article is displayed in same format as original print version. Free Acrobat Reader program needed to display.

Get the Actual Article

If the full text is NOT available in the database, click to see additional electronic full text sources and to search the CUNY+ catalog for print full text sources. You can also identify sources of articles in electronic format from the Library Home Page by clicking “Find Electronic Journals by Title.” And to locate an article in print or paper format, click “Find Books and Journal Titles in CUNY+ the Online Catalog” at the Library Home Page.

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