



## Introduction

PsycINFO provides citations and summaries for journal articles, books and book chapters, reports and dissertations in psychology and related disciplines. It includes material ranging in date from 1887 to the present and written in more than 25 languages.

## Getting Started

To access PsycINFO, click the **Article Search** link and select either Databases by Discipline, Databases by subject area, or A-Z list of all databases.

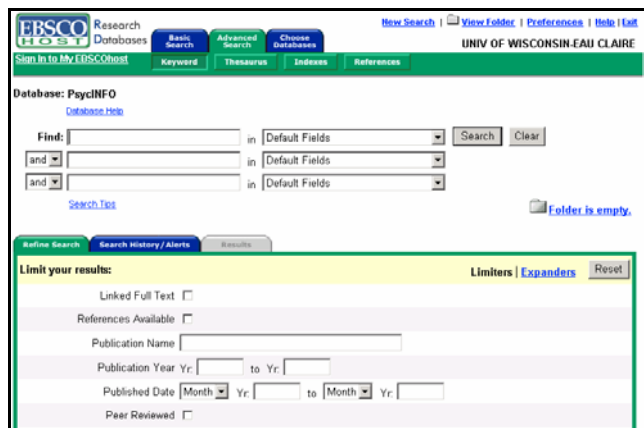


You will find PsycINFO under Psychology as a discipline or under Biological & Health Sciences and Social Sciences as subject areas.

## Beginning a Search

### Advanced Search

Advanced Search, the default search screen, lets you focus your search by searching in specific database fields and combining multiple terms and search criteria



Follow these steps to start your search:

1. Type a search term in the first input box.

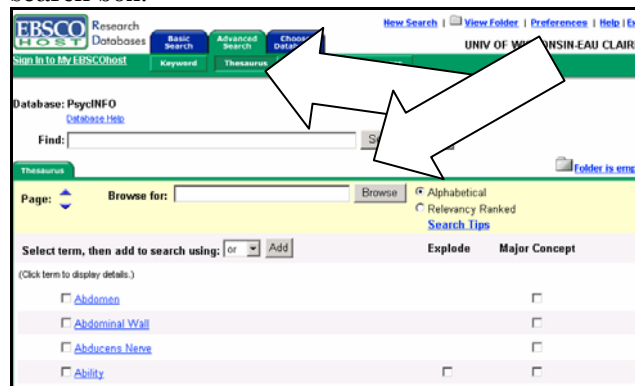
2. In the next input box select the fields you want to search (e.g., Subject). The default will search all fields.
3. If you are searching for multiple terms, type another search term in the input box on the next line, and select the search field.
4. Select *and*, *or* or *not* to combine your terms:
  - and** retrieves records that contain both search terms.
  - or** retrieves records that contain either or both search terms.
  - not** retrieves records that contain the first search term, but not the second.

5. Click **Search**

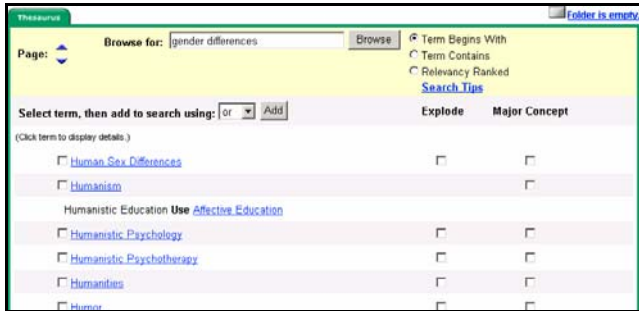
## Thesaurus

The thesaurus is a list of standardized words and phrases used as subject headings in the PsycINFO database. Subject headings are assigned to each record in the database to describe the content of the document. Using the thesaurus in searching reduces the need for you to consider all the varied terms and phrases that different authors might use, and it often aids in reducing the number of irrelevant results.

To search for a concept in the thesaurus, click the Thesaurus tab. Enter a term in the browse for box and click **Browse**. Do NOT enter the term in the search box.



Clicking on a desired term will retrieve details about how the term is used. Term details may contain More Specific (narrower) terms, Related terms, Less Specific (broader) terms.



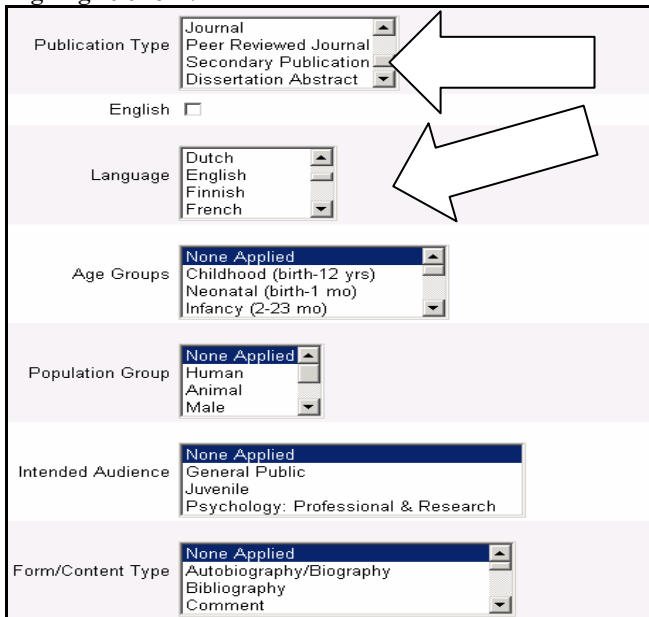
To search for narrower terms, click on the term and select any appropriate narrower terms from the list provided.

To expand your search, click the check box beside the term under the “Explode” column, which will include the displayed subject as well as all its narrower (more specific) subjects.

When you are ready to search click the Add button and all your terms will be entered into the search box above the thesaurus page. Then press enter or click the search button.

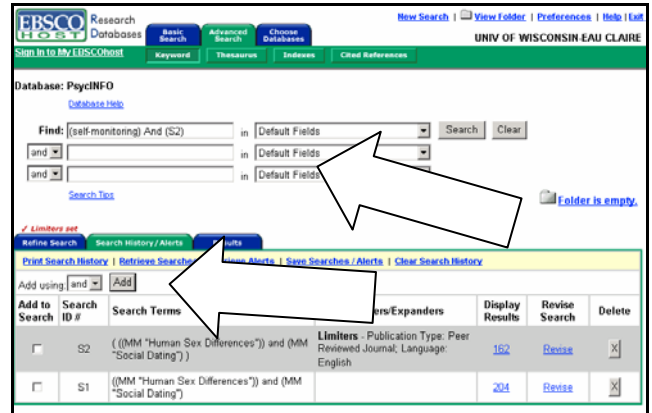
## Limiting your search

You can limit your search to retrieve only items that meet certain criteria. From the advanced search page, scroll down to select limit options. Use the scroll down menus to select limiters. Click to highlight them.



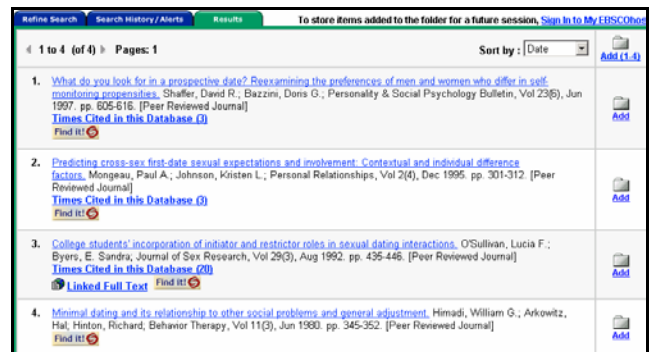
## Combining Searches

You can narrow or broaden your search retrieval by combining results of previous searches. Click the Search History tab to get a numbered list of your previous searches.

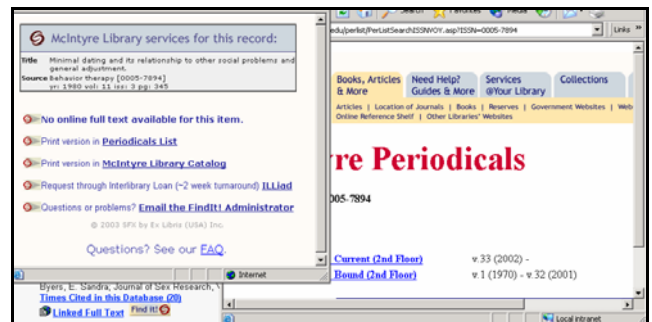


Clear the search statement, type the new term into the search box. Click the checkbox beside the previous search terms you want to include in the search and click the add button. Then click the search button.

## Finding the Articles



If the article is in full text in one of this vendor’s databases, there will be a “Linked Full Text” link. Otherwise, click the “Find It!” button. “Find It!” will show where you can find the article online, in the library, or through ILL. In this example the article is in the library and clicking the periodicals list link shows in what area the issue is shelved.



If you find an article online you can either save it to your h: drive or print it out. In the library and labs on campus, you will need to bring your own paper to print.