Literature searching for your dissertation

unihub.mdx.ac.uk
Ahhhhhhhh
What we will cover today

• Information searching
• Keywords and search operators
• Databases
• Finding Tests
• Referencing
• Research support resources
Which referencing style do you use in Psychology?
Learning Outcomes

To pass this module you must be able to demonstrate that you have:

Performed an extensive and independent search of library material

Psychology final year project manual
Marking scheme for your dissertation

GENERAL ASPECTS

• **Contribution to Knowledge**: To what extent the writer justifies their project as a *contribution to knowledge* and sees the bigger picture

• **Critical Awareness**: Demonstration of understanding of *key issues* both theoretical and methodological, relating to the area of investigation

• **Practical Aspects**: How well the writer meet acceptable standards for presentation, *citation and referencing*
Plan your search strategy

Before you start searching for information, take time to plan your search strategy. This is a crucial stage of the research process as:

• It will save you **time**
• Your searching will be more **structured**
• Your search results will be more **relevant**
Information Flow

• **Primary literature** is where new research or theories are first revealed, and includes journals and conferences – original material

• **Secondary literature** provides a more digested overview of a subject e.g. books – interpretation of other sources

• **Tertiary literature** records facts and brief descriptions of key information, as in reference material e.g. encyclopaedias and dictionaries
Let's go back to basics……
Accessing library resources
MyUniHub > MyStudy > MyLibrary
**Resource in more detail**

**BOOK**

*A dictionary of psychology*
Colman, Andrew M.
2006

![Available at Hendon First Floor (150.3 COL)](image)

**Find in Library**

**REQUEST:** Request

**LOCATION ITEMS**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Hendon</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Available</strong>, First Floor, <strong>Shelfmark: 150.3 COL</strong></td>
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<td>(3 copies, 3 available, 0 requests)</td>
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APA citation from library search


Remember to check citations for accuracy with our Referencing guide or Cite Them Right Online before including them in your work.
When you are looking for information about anything where do you go first?
Google...grumpy cat says no.....
Google

- Easy to use
- Information bubble
- Search results sponsored
- Any source
- Pay for access

Library Search

- Easy to use
- Finds information
- Search results by relevance
- Quality sources
- Free access

Google vs Library Search

http://www.flickr.com/photos/ennuislife/3450743002/
Google Scholar provides a simple way to broadly search for scholarly literature. From one place, you can search across many disciplines and sources: articles, theses, books, abstracts and court opinions, from academic publishers, professional societies, online repositories, universities and other web sites.

https://scholar.google.com/
Google Scholar settings
Search for and select Middlesex University
Simple searches

Google Scholar search for "obama immigration"

- Any time
- Since 2019
- Since 2018
- Since 2015
- Custom range...

Sort by relevance
Sort by date

- Include patents
- Include citations

Create alert

1. [PDF] Supreme Court tie blocks Obama immigration plan
   A Liptak, MD Shear - Sup. Ct. Preview, 2016 - HeinOnline
   The Supreme Court announced on Thursday that it had deadlocked in a case challenging President Obama’s immigration plan, effectively ending what Mr. Obama had hoped would become one of his central legacies. The program would have shielded as many as five...
   Cited by 21
   Related articles

2. [PDF] Dream On: The Obama Administration’s Nonenforcement of Immigration Laws, the DREAM Act, and the Take Care Clause
   RJ Delehunt, JC Yoo - Tex. L. Rev., 2012 - HeinOnline
   ... The Limits of Antitrust Scholarship Barak Orbach 1165 reviewing THE GLOBAL LIMITS OF COMPETITION LAW Stirring the Melting Pot: A Recipe for Immigrant Acceptance Michael Scaperlanda 177 reviewing Philip Kretsedemas’s The IMMIGRATION CRUCIBLE...
   Cited by 179
   Related articles

3. [PDF] Open borders: The case against immigration controls
   T Hayter - 2000 - rgio.pw
   ... I have no problem with immigration, so long as they follow our laws, and don’t try to jump the line. You know what they’re right. It’s not fair to accuse them of being against all immigration. It’s just like how Obama is often accused of being anti-gun...
   Cited by 441
   Related articles

4. Senator Barack Obama and immigration reform
   ME Dorsey, M Diaz-Barriga - Journal of Black Studies, 2007 - journals.sagepub.com
   Senator Barack Obama played a key role in supporting bipartisan efforts led by Senators

[PDF] heinonline.org
Full-Text@Middlesex

[PDF] heinonline.org
Full-Text@Middlesex
Citation styles

- MLA

- APA

- Chicago

- Harvard

- Vancouver
What do you use to check your citations?
Cite Them Right Online

myUniHub > My Study > My Library > Databases > C

http://libguides.mdx.ac.uk/plagiarismreferencing
Literature Searching: Planning your advanced search

- Considering sources of information
- Identifying search terms
- Using search tips to improve your results
- Reviewing and evaluating your results
Get better results & find things faster

• **Spelling US v UK**
  - behavior / behaviour
  - counselor / counsellor

• **Truncate** *
  - Offend* = offending, offender, offenders

• **Phrases “___” (exact words in that order)**
  - “substance abuse”
  - “cognitive behav* therapy”
Synonyms

A synonym is a word or phrase that means exactly or nearly the same as another in the same language

Health – physical, mental wellness

Synonyms include Energy, Fitness, Strength, Well-being, Vigor, Healthiness, Stamina

Antonyms include Lethargy, Weakness, Illness, Sickness
Narrower Terms

• When you start your search you should have lots of results the aim is to create a pyramid – wide at the beginning getting narrower at the top
OR

OR = MORE

You can use OR to expand a search in order to get MORE results
AND

AND = Less

AND requires **all** of the terms to be present

AND makes your search results smaller
Other ways to narrow your topic – limits and filters

• People or participants:
  – Racial/cultural/nationality groups
  – Age
  – Type of participant

• Way you measure it or methodology

• Location

• Timescale

• Type of resource
Three examples of words a keyword search will find with this: *Psych*
Truncated Search results for Psych*

• Psychology
• Psychiatry
• Psychic
• Psychopath
• Psychometric
• Psychobabble
• Psychedelic
• Psychotic
Ahhhhhhhh
Literature Searching... Using the databases
Databases for research articles
myUniHub > My Study > My Library > Databases

Search for database by letter, then name
Web of Science – search

MyUniHub > MyStudy > MyLibrary > Databases > W > Web of Science
Web of Science – Results – Times Cited

MyUniHub > MyStudy > MyLibrary > Databases > W > Web of Science

Gives you a hyperlinked list of articles which cite this article.
Citation searching

- Which articles have cited an earlier article
- Updates to the research study you’ve been looking at
- Find articles on similar/related subject
- How many times an article has been cited
- Best journals in your field
PsycINFO – Limit your results

Limit your results

Linked Full Text

Source

Published Date
Month - Year - Month - Year

References Available

Publication Year

Peer Reviewed

Publication Type
All
- All Journals
- Peer Reviewed Journal
- Peer-Reviewed Status Unknown

Age Groups
All
- Childhood (birth-12 yrs)
- Neonatal (birth-1 mo)
- Infancy (2-23 mo)

Intended Audience
All
- General Public
- Juvenile
- Psychology, Professional & Research

Population Group
All
- Human
- Animal
- Male

Document Type
All
- Abstract Collection
- Bibliography
- Chapter

Search
Refinement tools

Checks access

1. The double-edged sword of grandiose narcissism: Implications for successful and unsuccessful leadership among U.S. Presidents.

Watts, Ashley L.; Lilienfeld, Scott O.; Smith, Sarah Frances; Miller, Joshua D.; Campbell, W. Keith; Waldman, Irwin D.; Rubenzer, Steven J.; Faschingbaumer, Thomas J.; Psychological Science, Vol 24(12), Dec, 2013 pp. 2379-2389. Publisher: Sage Publications; [Journal Article]

Recent research and theorizing suggest that narcissism may predict both positive and negative leadership behaviors. We tested this hypothesis with data on the 42 U.S. presidents up to and including...

26. The reluctant president.


Coaching CEO successor candidates is challenging and deeply nuanced in the best of circumstances. The stakes rise exponentially when the sitting CEO owns the company, resents having 'anointed' an...

Subjects: Leadership; Mentor; Occupational Guidance; Professional Development; Top Level Managers; Adulthood (18 yrs & older); Male

Cited References: (10) Times Cited in this Database: (6)
PsycINFO: Example advanced searches that Moving from narrow/specific to wider/broad

Results go up in number...
Repeat and improve = improved results

• Try different things
• React to your searches – why is there too much/not enough?
• Follow citations and references
• Expand your keywords as you go
• Alternative or new keywords in results
• Re-run your searches
Finding Tests

myUniHub > My Study > My Library > Databases
My library > Databases

A-Z Databases: Hendon: P
Find the best library databases for your research.

12 Databases found for Hendon; P

P
Paley Center Seminars
Passport
PEPweb
Performing Arts Periodicals Database
Proquest Natural Sciences Collection
Proquest Newsstand
Alternative Name(s) & Keywords: This database has been renamed 'European Newsstream'
PsycARTICLES
Psychotherapy.net: Psychotherapy & Counselling Videos
PsycINFO
PsycTESTS
PubMed
Purple Guide

Share
Finding Psychological Tests: PsycTEST database

- Tests devised and used by researchers, academics, professors
- Copyright-cleared
- Find and use in your own experiment
PsycTESTS database Simple subject search

Search Terms: self esteem

Search Results: 1 - 50 of 1,252

1. Lifespan Self-Esteem Scale (LSE)

Authors: Harris, Michelle A.; Donnelan, M. Brent; Trzesniewski, Kali H. Language: English. Construct: Self Esteem. Purpose: The purpose of the Lifespan Self Esteem Scale is to measure self esteem across the lifespan. The Lifespan Self Esteem Scale (LSE; Harris, Donnelan, & Trzesniewski, 2018) was developed to be a short measure of global self esteem across the lifespan. Items were based in part on existing m...

Subjects: Factor Analysis; Factor Structure; Life Span; Personality Measures; Self Esteem; Test Construction; Test Reliability; Test Validity; Childhood (birth-12 yrs); Preschool Age (2-5 yrs); School Age (6-12 yrs); Adolescence (13-17 yrs); Adulthood (18 yrs & older); Young Adulthood (18-29 yrs); Thirties (30-39 yrs); Middle Age (40-64 yrs); Aged (65 yrs & older); Male; Female

PDF Full Text (180.6KB)
Or author/test name search
Not all tests in PsycTESTS are full text
Following up tests by checking sources...

...Use Library Search to see whether we have access to the article or the journal
Referencing
Why reference?

• Demonstrate that you have read widely
• Evidence of your research
• Establish the credibility and authority of your ideas and arguments
• Reader can locate original material used
• Give credit to the author/creator
• Highlight and back-up relevant points
• Avoid plagiarism
See It, Cite It, Sorted - Cite Them Right

Editor's highlights

Browse by referencing style

© Middlesex University
Example of a journal article citation

Here are the guidelines for referencing journals according to the 7th Edition of the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association.

Citation order:
- Author (surname followed by initials)
- Year of publication (in round brackets)
- Title of article
- Title of journal (in italics)
- Volume number (in italics)
- Issue (in round brackets)
- Page numbers

You try

To learn more about using the APA referencing system, visit the resources below.
Managing your references

- Bibliographic management software
- Collect, manage and organize references
- Read annotate, organize and cite research
- Format papers
Set up a RefWorks account

- myUniHub > My Study > My Library > Databases > R > New RefWorks
- Use your live.mdx.ac.uk
It’s not in the Library!

• Inter Library Loans
  http://libguides.mdx.ac.uk/interlibraryloan/
  interlibraryloans

• SCONUL Access
  http://www.access.sconul.ac.uk/sconul-access

• Other libraries
  http://libguides.mdx.ac.uk/psych/otherlibs
To access the Library Subject Guide
Need help?
- Databases
- Lit searching
- Referencing

- Psychology Library Subject Guide
  https://libguides.mdx.ac.uk/psych

- Librarians in the StudyHub (1st floor) Monday – Friday 9-5

- Your librarian s.parry@mdx.ac.uk
Essay writing companies

• Unethical business
• False claims
• High charges/no standards
• Get out clauses
• Hard sell
• University rules
What should I do?

• Report it
• Stop and think
• Get help

https://unihub.mdx.ac.uk/support/unihelp

https://unihub.mdx.ac.uk/study/writing-numeracy/drop-ins
Buying coursework is cheating

It’s against University Regulations: 
https://unihub.mdx.ac.uk/study/academic-integrity

There are serious consequences:
• Unfair advantage
• Poor quality work
• Open to blackmail
• Suspension
• Degree cancelled
• Career prospects
Summary

• Make sure you understand your topic – go back to basic textbooks, use a dictionary of psychology, speak to your tutor

• Keywords – breakdown your question into keywords to search on, keep adding to that list from the sources you find

• Use more than 1 database!

• Repeat your searches – you won’t get it right first time!

• Remember to evaluate – CARP

• Remember to reference correctly – APA, Cite Them Right

• DON’T PANIC!
The End!

Congratulations you have made it to the end of the session

Any Questions??

s.parry@mdx.ac.uk
Final ahhhhhhhh