

# Searching PsycInfo



PsycINFO is the most important database for psychology researchers. It covers U.S. and international items published from 1887 to present. It provides great flexibility in limiting to population, type of publication, etc.

## 1. Getting started

- From the **Libraries Home Page** – [library.usu.edu](http://library.usu.edu)
- Scroll down to 'Please Select a Subject' (lower right)
- Choose 'Social Sciences'
- Choose 'PsycINFO via EBSCO Host'
- "Unclick" Psychology and Behavioral Sciences Collection (so you can use the full features of PsycINFO) Click on **Continue**.
- Click on the 'Thesaurus' link at the top to explore the PsycINFO vocabulary.
- In the yellow 'Browse for:' box, type a sample search term – stigma
- Now type 'stigma' in the Find box at the top of the page.
- Try adding more terms in the next search boxes, such as 'mental illness' and 'family' to narrow your search

## 2. Refining your search

- Click on the 'Refine Search' tab to limit your results (thus getting a more focused result list).
- Under Publication Type, click on 'Peer Reviewed Journal.'
- Under Methodology, click on 'Empirical Study.' Click on **Search**.
- Experiment with other limiters, but be careful not to use too many! This sometimes leads to getting zero hits.
- If at first you don't succeed, try something different!

Try the other Psychology database— Psychology and Behavioral Sciences Collection. It has more full-text articles.

## 3. Journal call numbers

Follow the directions in "Article Linker" to search the catalog to find the call number of a journal; to get an interlibrary loan (if USU doesn't own a copy); or to e-mail a librarian for further help.

## 4. Formatting your paper

Ask for the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (a.k.a. the APA Style Manual) at the Information Desk on the main floor of the Library.

Get help in the library! Go to the Information Desk. It's on the left as you enter. Librarians can help you use databases, choose appropriate keywords, and expand or narrow your topic.

### For more help:

Phone 797-2678 ■ Email [library.help@usu.edu](mailto:library.help@usu.edu)

IM Yahoo: [usulibrary](http://usulibrary) ■ AIM: [usulibraries](http://usulibraries) ■ MSN: [usulibrary@hotmail.com](mailto:usulibrary@hotmail.com)

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