

PsycINFO Search Guide

Produced by the American Psychological Association- *PsycINFO* is a database containing 2 million references of journal articles, book chapters, books and dissertations, all relating to psychological literature. Spanning 1887 to the present, PsycINFO contains information about the psychological and related disciplines such as medicine, psychiatry, nursing, sociology, education, pharmacology, physiology, linguistics, anthropology, business and law.

1. Go to: www.fredonia.edu/library

- Find the main page for PsycINFO by selecting the:
- “Database by Subject” link (located at the left of the screen)
- “Database by Subject” drop-down menu (located at the top of the page)
- “Find Articles” drop-down menu (located at the top of the page)
- The PsycINFO screen defaults to the advance search option.

Language button (located upper right)

This dropdown menu button allows you to reconfigure the PsycINFO search page into a language other than English. Other choices include French, Spanish, etc...

2. Searching:

There are several ways to search within the PsycINFO database. These are the Advance search (default screen), Basic search, Keyword search, Thesaurus search, and the Reference search (all can be accessed by clicking on the green area located at the top of the screen).

From outward appearances the PsycINFO screen is very similar to the PsycARTICLES screen. The PsycINFO database is more comprehensive; composed of Full-Text articles, journals, books, book chapters, reviews, etc... The PsycARTICLES database only contains Full-Text journal articles.

Advanced Search

This search mode and defaulted screen at Reed library provides more options to allow you to create a more effective search strategy. There is a useful "**Online Help**" button located at the top of the screen which offers detailed instructions on limiting, combining search words, using stop words, and other advanced search options. Take time to review it as you attempt to understand how to use this database.

Basic Search

Although simple in appearance compared to the advanced mode, this feature requires advance knowledge of the intricate coding of this database. Because of this, it is

recommended that you utilize the Advance Search. This category is already formatted with dropdown menus which provide choices for you to create the best possible search. If you are interested in learning how to use subjects and particular codes consult a librarian at the reference desk.

Keyword Search

The Keyword search is another method of searching. If you find that your research consists of several terms consider this method, making use of Boolean operators (e.g. and, or, not). (Consult the help feature located within the database to understand what Boolean operators are; and how they enhance your search.).

Thesaurus Search

The Thesaurus Search utilizes PsycINFO's database controlled language or subject/topics. This is where you need to go if you are unsure of how you would like to structure your search. Simply go to the Thesaurus feature and enter a subject/topic term related to your desired information. After looking at these results you may be able to revise your research statement based on these Thesaurus terms.

Find Fields

Based on three 'find field' boxes at the top of the screen, each box allows you to limit your search to any category such as journal articles, title, and author by selecting the tab and clicking the dropdown menu in the **Default Field Tab** field. When using more than one field for your search the **Boolean** operators (and, or and not) are used to expand your search.

For example, when retrieving information related to **psychoanalysis** and **hypnosis**, simply type these words into the **find field** boxes then check, enter, or select any other associated limiters in the **limit your results** area. Click the **Search Button** and view your results.

The screenshot displays the EBSCO Research Databases search interface for PsycINFO. At the top, there are navigation links for 'New Search', 'View Folder', 'Preferences', and 'Help'. The search type is set to 'Keyword'. The search fields are as follows:

- Find: psychoanalysis in TI Title
- and hypnosis in TI Title
- and [empty] in Default Fields

The search results area shows 'Folder is empty.' At the bottom, there is a 'Limit your results' section with 'Limiters', 'Expanders', and 'Reset' options.

Your results page for the above terms will look like this:

The screenshot shows a search results page with the following elements:

- Navigation tabs: Refine Search, Search History / Alerts, Results.
- Text: "To store items added to the folder for a future session, [Sign In to My EBSCOhost](#)"
- Page indicators: "1 to 11 (of 11) | Pages: 1" and "Sort by: Date" with a dropdown arrow.
- Buttons: "Add (1-11)" and "Add" (repeated for each item).
- Item 1: [Contemporary psychoanalysis and hypnosis](#). Peebles-Kleiger, Mary Jo; International Journal of Clinical & Experimental *Hypnosis*, Vol 49(2), Apr 2001. pp. 146-165. [Peer Reviewed Journal]. Includes links for [References \(118\)](#), [Times Cited \(2\)](#), and [SFX Link to Full Text](#).
- Item 2: [Why scientific hypnosis needs psychoanalysis \(or something like it\)](#). Nash, Michael R.; International Journal of Clinical & Experimental *Hypnosis*, Vol 45(3), Jul 1997. pp. 291-300. [Peer Reviewed Journal]. Includes links for [Times Cited \(1\)](#) and [SFX Link to Full Text](#).
- Item 3: [Psychoanalysis and hypnosis](#). Fromm, Erika; Nash, Michael R.; Madison, CT, US: International Universities Press, Inc, 1997. xi, 312 pp. [Authored Book]. Includes link for [Times Cited \(5\)](#).
- Item 4: [Freud and hypnosis: The development of an interactionist perspective](#). Silverstein, Steven M.; Silverstein, Barry R.; In: Annual of *psychoanalysis*, Vol. 18. Chicago Inst for *Psychoanalysis*, Hillsdale, NJ, England: Analytic Press, Inc, 1990. pp. 175-194. [Chapter].
- Item 5: [Post-Freudian developments in psychoanalytic views of hypnosis: From libido theory to ego](#)

Limit your results screen (description)

Portions of this section are displayed for both the PsycINFO and PsycARTICLES screens. As mentioned previously, this section is more extensive when using the PsycINFO mode.

The screenshot shows the "Limit your results:" section with the following options:

- Linked Full Text
- References Available
- Publication Name
- Publication Year Yr: to Yr:
- Published Date Month Yr: to Month Yr:
- Peer Reviewed

Buttons: Limiters | [Expanders](#) | Reset

Linked Full Text

This feature allows you to limit your search to full-text articles **only**. By not selecting this box you will retrieve full-text, abstracts, citations etc... after a search.

References Available

Normally when you enter a search you will retrieve a results list. Once you access the title link of a particular article at the top of the screen will be a hyperlink titled **References (#)**. This feature refers to a separate list of articles relating only to the article you just accessed. These supplemental results may offer additional information related to your topic.

Publication Name

This feature allows you to select a single publication title within the PsycINFO database.

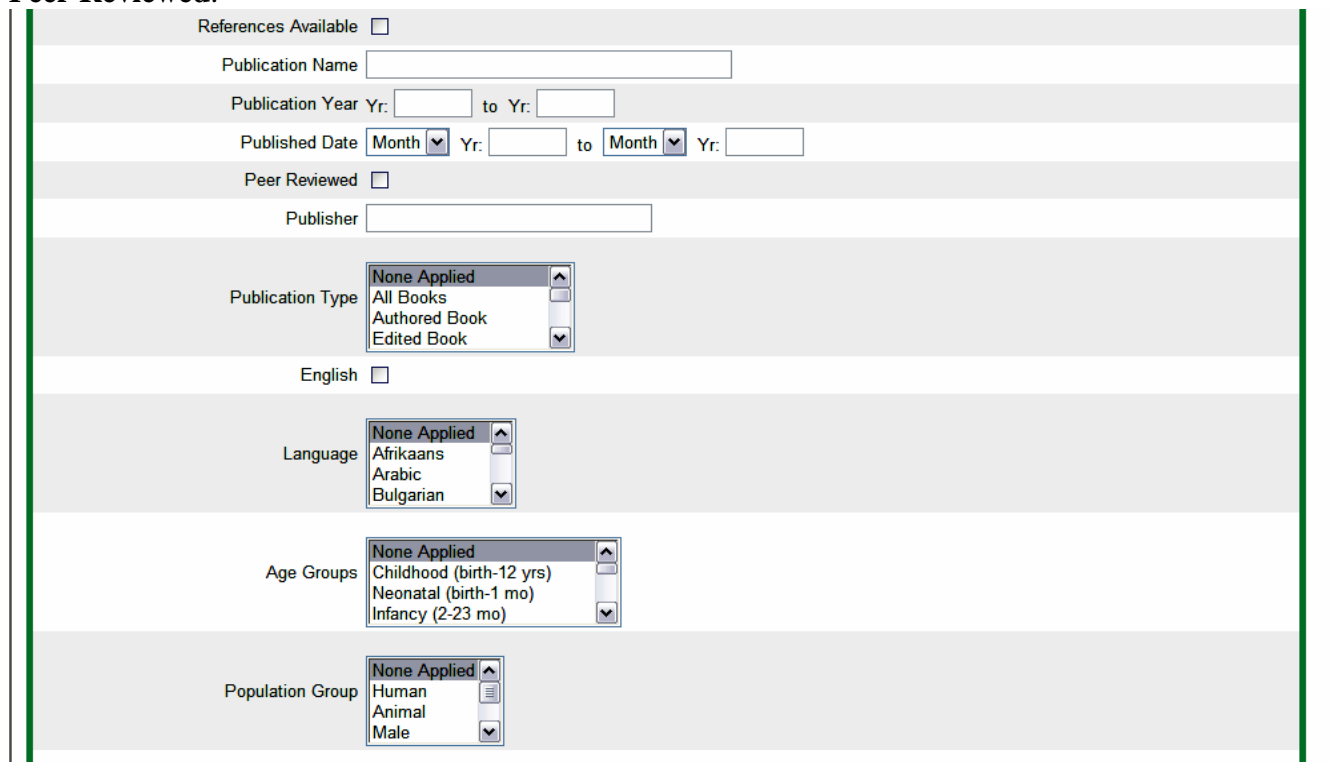
Publication Year

By entering a span of time based on years only you can retrieve information related to your search e.g. 1999- 2001.

Published Date

This feature of the database produces results for published date(s) only. You have the option of selecting a single span of time based on month and year e.g. Jan.1999 – Jan 2001.

Peer Reviewed.



The screenshot displays a search interface with the following elements:

- References Available**:
- Publication Name**:
- Publication Year**: Yr: to Yr:
- Published Date**: Month Yr: to Month Yr:
- Peer Reviewed**:
- Publisher**:
- Publication Type**: (dropdown menu with options: None Applied, All Books, Authored Book, Edited Book)
- English**:
- Language**: (dropdown menu with options: None Applied, Afrikaans, Arabic, Bulgarian)
- Age Groups**: (dropdown menu with options: None Applied, Childhood (birth-12 yrs), Neonatal (birth-1 mo), Infancy (2-23 mo))
- Population Group**: (dropdown menu with options: None Applied, Human, Animal, Male)

Checking this feature of the database retrieves only search results that are considered to be scholarly in nature. If you are instructed to find scholarly materials, click this box

during a search to ensure you receive articles that meet with your instructor's requirements.

Publisher

If you know the publisher's name for the information you seek, enter it in this field to enhance your search.

Publication Type

This feature allows you to select specific formatted choices e.g. books, authored books, Peer reviewed Journal, and reports, etc...

English

This feature enables you to only retrieve English written searches.

Language

This feature allows you to limit/expand searches to results to languages other than English.

Age groups

Specific research requires results based on age groups. This feature in PsycINFO allows you to retrieve searches that require information related to specific age groups only.

Population groups

On occasion your research will pertain to a specific population group. This feature in PsycINFO allows you to limit your results to searches that consider population group as a variable for searches e.g. human, animal, etc...

The screenshot displays a search filter interface with the following elements:

- A dropdown menu at the top set to "Bulgarian".
- A section for "Age Groups" with a dropdown menu showing "None Applied", "Childhood (birth-12 yrs)", "Neonatal (birth-1 mo)", and "Infancy (2-23 mo)".
- A section for "Population Group" with a dropdown menu showing "None Applied", "Human", "Animal", and "Male".
- A section for "Intended Audience" with a dropdown menu showing "None Applied", "General Public", "Juvenile", and "Psychology: Professional & Research".
- A section for "Form/Content Type" with a dropdown menu showing "None Applied", "Autobiography/Biography", "Bibliography", and "Comment".
- A yellow bar at the bottom with the text "Expand your search to:" and three checkboxes:
 - "Also search within the full text of the articles" (unchecked)
 - "Automatically 'And' search terms" (unchecked)
 - "Also search for related words" (unchecked)
- Navigation links for "Limiters | Expanders" and a "Reset" button.

Intended Audience

This database feature allows you to retrieve information that considers its intended audience related to publication, scope, subject material etc... This limiter allows you to select your particular audience according to topics such as Childhood, Neonatal, Young Adulthood, etc...

Form/Content Type

Due to the breath of the material in these databases it is possible to consider different categories of research topics as another indexing tool. This feature allow you to further limit your retrieval to materials such as empirical studies, clinical trials, quantitative studies, qualitative studies, book study guide/workbook etc...

Viewing Search results

Results List:

After selecting Search, you will see a **Results list** (titles of books, articles, citations, and abstracts, etc...) Click on the active title link to open up the full display of the article, if it includes a full text link. Active links within the article can be used to access numerous topics such as; author, subject headings, URL's, email addresses etc...

Search History/Alerts:

This feature allows you to review all your searches during a session. By occasionally looking at these results you can review what you've already searched, and logically understand, alter, and refine your results.

Printing, E-mailing, Saving, Adding Records, the SFX feature

Printing:

If you wish to print an article for your research you have several options after you click the print icon at the top of the print manager page. You have of the option of selecting four forms of the article citation.

E-mailing:

By selecting this option you can e-mail the four forms of the article citation to an e-mail address.

Saving:

By selecting this option you can save the four forms of the article citation to a floppy disk, or export the information to the different versions within the bibliographic

Adding:

The add feature located at the top of the results list and within each article citation allows you to add the article and the search information to a folder that can be view later. This feature allows you to return to any relevant information at a later date should you have to discontinue your search duration.

SFX Button:

The SFX button allows you view a full-text article on the screen. You have several options, reading the entire article in HTML format with images or as a PDF version, emailing the article, exporting the citation, saving as citation alert etc... If the article is not available in full text from the SFX feature, you will be directed to the Interlibrary Library Loan link (*Illiad*) in order to borrow the article from another library.

Note: If you have any questions, contact the Reference Desk by calling x3222, sending an email to reedref@fredonia.edu or by clicking on the *Ask Us 24/7* link for 24/7 Virtual Reference assistance from a librarian.

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