

Search Strategies

Database Introduction

Now that you've done your background research, it's time to search the library databases. For the project you are working on now, we suggest you start with a general database called Academic Search Premiere. You can add more databases to your search to include more specific subject material. For example, if you are researching a topic related to religion, you might add the religion and philosophy collection to your search.

Once you have your search results you can use the limiters on the left side of the page to narrow your results. You can limit your results to academic journals and peer-reviewed articles, or by creation date, subject, language, geography, and more. Look at keywords and abstracts listed in each record to decide if an article looks promising. To access full text, click "GET IT! @ BYU" or "PDF Full Text". If BYU doesn't have access to an article, you can order it through inter-library loan, which is a free service the library provides. If you would like to organize your articles in one convenient place, consider exporting your references to a citation manager like RefWorks. RefWorks allows you to organize your articles and share folders and can even help you create your bibliography.