

# Nursing Literature Databases Research Tips

If you have questions or problems using library resources at any time, please contact me by email Karen Nelson@enmu.edu (best) or phone at **575.562.2644**.

To locate research material for nursing topics, use the databases below. In all cases:

- If you cannot obtain a free full-text article, you may request it via Interlibrary Loan (ILL)
- When you locate a useful article, always check the **Reference List** at the end of the article to see what resources the author used—you may want to follow up on an author or work listed (check the publication date, so you don't use material that is really old) [backward referencing]
- Greater scholarly importance is attached to articles that display **Cited by...** links; it means the articles have been cited by other researchers in the field. Articles found under "cited by" links may provide additional and more recent material related to your research topic. [forward referencing]

**Google Scholar:** <https://scholar.google.com/>

This is a multi-disciplinary scholarly subset of the google internet browser.

- Click the URL above and enter your search expression; then click any full-text links on the right
- In many cases you will find full-text links that lead directly to articles in the library's databases: enter your ENMU student ID# when requested. Place ILL requests for any non-full-text articles.
- For useful articles, click the **Related Articles** link under the citations to view more articles
- Click the **Cite** link under the citations and select APA style; copy and paste into your paper

**PubMed:** <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed>

Good for medical, neurological, physiological topics; all articles are scholarly and peer-reviewed.

- Click the URL, enter search term in the box and click the Search button
- In the left-hand sidebar, click the **Free Full text link**; click any **Free PMC/Free Article** links for full-text articles; then look for PDF links (usually in the upper right of the screen)
- Click the **Similar Articles** link under the citation entries for articles similar to the one you are viewing

## Library Databases

Go to the library home page and click the **Periodical Databases** link under the catalog search box. Click the letter that begins the name of the database you want to use at the alphabetical list in the upper right of the page; then click the database name link and enter your student ID# at the remote authentication screen.

**CINAHL** (nursing)

**Academic Search Ultimate** (multi-disciplinary—has some nursing journals)

**Education Research Complete** (education)

All three of these databases are published by the same vendor; they look the same and are used exactly the same way. All are approx 90-95% full text. They can be searched individually or simultaneously.

- To search any of them individually, click on the green Library Databases button on the main library page, then select A, C, or E for a list of databases that start with that letter, then select the desired database.

- Enter your search term in the box and scroll down to add any search limitors, e.g., published dates, peer-reviewed, evidence-based practice, research article, etc. Click the Search button.
- Click any PDF (best) or HTML links to access full-text articles; LinkSource links provide full text only half the time—if asked for a login, it means we do not have access to the full text (there is no login)
- To search all three databases simultaneously, open the CINAHL database screen. Along the top, in blue font, click the **Choose Databases** link. Check the Academic Search Ultimate and Education Research Complete boxes and say OK. You will now be searching all three databases.
- **To search by a specific author or within a specific journal title:** change the “Select a Field” index box to either AU Author or SO Publication Name / SO Source.
- Always read the abstract which is a summary of the article—it is usually set apart, but sometimes it is the first paragraph. After reading the abstract, you will know whether to bother with the article.
- When you find a suitable article, open the file and click the Detailed Record link in the upper left of the screen—this will open a handy toolbar on the right
  - You can print, download or email the article to yourself by using the specified icons
  - Click the **Cite** icon and locate the **APA example**; you can copy and paste it into your paper. Warning: sometimes the citations are not correct, e.g., only the first word and proper nouns should be capitalized in the article title, but you may find all of the words capitalized—make sure you fix any errors after you paste your citations!

**Science Direct** (medical, neurological, physiological topics; all articles are scholarly and peer-reviewed)

- Click the letter S and then the Science Direct link. Enter search term in the box and click the Search button. On the left-hand sidebar, limit search

by date (check as many date boxes as you want) and then limit to Journal Articles—click the **Apply Filters** button.

- Full-text articles are denoted by green or orange squares to the right of the citation line. Click the PDF link to open the full-text article. You may print, download or email the article.
- If the square is grey and the article abstract looks good, place an ILL request for it

**For books and other items**, use the library's **Catalog** which is the main search box on the library home page

- Enter search term, journal title or book title in the box and press the Enter key
- At the left-hand sidebar, limit your search by format
  - For eBooks, click eBook box, then the title link and the “View eBook” link
  - For journals, click the eJournal box, then the title link and the “Access Journal” link; select a year/volume/issue link or enter your search term in the “Search Within Publication” box
  - For print books, DVDs, etc., click the box(es) and then title links—request anything you need

### **Interlibrary Loan (ILL)**

- Click the green **InterLibrary Loan** link on the library home page
- Click **the blue create account in the center of the screen.**
- Select the **set/reset** text link, then enter your Banner number in the field on the new screen. This will send a link to set your password to the e-mail associated with the Banner number. You must create your own password – it will not automatically be what you use to log in to other things on campus.

- Return to the login page, and your access to your ILL account will be your Banner number and the password you created.
- Once you have created your account, you can add your mobile device number to receive SMS notifications. You will receive emails when your request has been received. Your requests will be listed
- Article PDFs will be available in your ILL account. The link for each article may be opened a total of 5 times, so **I suggest you download that PDF to your device the first time you click the link.**

## **Electronic Reserves**

To view articles placed on electronic reserve by your instructors:

- Go to the library home page
- Click the **Electronic Reserves** link
- Click the course name/number link
- Click the title to read the linked article. Use the password provided by your instructor if it requests a password.