

## Keys to Database Searching

To access our databases, go to: <http://207.144.228.16/lrc/sources.html>  
 Use the **NEW** Database Subject Guide ([http://207.144.228.16/lrc/guides/db\\_subjects.html#e](http://207.144.228.16/lrc/guides/db_subjects.html#e))  
 to narrow your database choices.



**What is an article database?** It is a collection of published articles that can be searched using key words or subject terms. You are not searching the Web or a free Internet site but a subscription database that contains copyrighted works from printed publications.



**Where do I find the library's article databases?** They are on the library's web site on the Reference Sources (<http://207.144.228.16/lrc/sources.html>) page. Use the NEW Database Subject Guide ([http://207.144.228.16/lrc/guides/db\\_subjects.html#e](http://207.144.228.16/lrc/guides/db_subjects.html#e)) to narrow your database choices. You can access the databases from any computer that has a connection to the Internet. Use the proxy server connection for off-campus access.



**What kind of information is in the library's databases?** Most of our databases let you search for specific topics in selected periodical (newspapers, magazines, scholarly journals). Some of the articles will be full-text (every word of the entire article will be displayed on screen in text (.html) or picture (.pdf) format); you can print, save, email and sometimes create saved folders of the full-text online articles and/or citations and searches. Other articles listings will provide only reference/citation information (author, title, volume number, page numbers) so you can find them in printed sources. A list of our printed sources is available in the Reference area.



**How do I know which database to use?** Use the New Database Subject Guide ([http://207.144.228.16/lrc/guides/db\\_subjects.html#e](http://207.144.228.16/lrc/guides/db_subjects.html#e)). For example, if you are writing a paper on a controversial topic for an English class, choose "Current Issues." If you are searching for a journal article for a psychology class assignment, choose "Psychology & Mental Health." Remember to also check the "General" section for short papers needing basic information.

### Sample databases:

	<b>ProQuest or Academic Search Premier</b>	<b>Facts.com and Issues &amp; Controversies</b>
<b>Contents</b>	Articles from thousands of periodicals (magazines, scholarly journals, and newspapers). Both cover numerous topics and subjects.	Full-text anonymous reports on selected topics, which include overviews, statistics, images, and references, PLUS anonymous articles from World News Digest.
<b>Dates covered</b>	1971 to the present	1940 to the present
<b>Full-text?</b>	Many, but not all, articles are full-text.	Every report is full-text.
<b>Enter your search words</b>	Opens in Advanced searching. Academic Search shows abstracts with results.	Look for broad subjects, e.g., terrorism, or use the Subject Index for your topic.
<b>Find an exact phrase</b>	Put the phrase in one box; use additional boxes to narrow the search	Type the phrase.

Need more help? Contact your librarians by phone, email, or in person. See contact information on our home page at <http://207.144.228.16/lrc/faqs.html>