

Transcript: Introduction to Article Database Searching at UNB Libraries

In this video, you will learn how to:

- recognize and access UNB Libraries' article databases,
- select subject-specific databases to take advantage of their specialized search features, and
- use durable links to bookmark databases.

Academic resources available at UNB Libraries include many licensed databases and subscriptions that you have access to while you are a student. Many of the resources you will find in UNB Libraries' subscribed databases are not available through search engines like Google. Since publishers and vendors of electronic content require verification of a user's university affiliation, it is important to access databases from the UNB libraries' homepage. When doing research off campus, you will be prompted to log in with your university username and password.

UNB Libraries' databases contain records of articles, books, reports, and multimedia in various fields of study, available in print and/or electronic formats.

These databases are great sources of peer-reviewed, academic journal articles that are often required to complete your assignments.

You can access the UNB libraries' article databases from the library's home page. Go to the 'Article databases' tab where you can either 'browse databases by subject' or 'browse for databases by title.'

The 'browse for databases by title' option provides an alphabetical drop-down list of the databases available via UNB Libraries. If you know the database you wish to use, find the name in this list. If you do not know which database would be best for your research topic, you may want to explore the research guides.

UNB Libraries subscribe to databases from a variety of publishers. There are two major providers for UNB Libraries databases--EBSCO and ProQuest. UNB Libraries provide access to several EBSCO databases, such as America: History & Life, Business Source Ultimate, PsycINFO, and more.

The Libraries also give you access to several ProQuest databases, such as Sociological Abstracts, Canadian Business and Current Affairs, Historical Newspapers, and others.

UNB Libraries also provide access to many databases in the STEM disciplines, such as Scopus, SCIFinder Web, and BIOSIS.

Keep in mind database search strategies, including phrase searching, Boolean operators, and subject headings, are useful regardless of discipline. We encourage you to extrapolate from these tutorials and **apply these search strategies in any research database.**

The interface is similar across databases. You can find the database's title in the top-left corner, the search boxes are centrally located, and help menus are available.

In some databases, search results can easily be limited to peer-reviewed academic journal articles by checking off the box for "scholarly (peer reviewed) journals."

Databases also include features that are specifically designed for researchers in a particular subject or discipline. For instance, historians can search by era in America:History and Life and social scientists can search by demographic details, such as gender, age, and methodology in PsycINFO. And in Scopus you can search by chemical name and funding information.

You can discover more about a database by clicking on the 'details' option - available before you enter into the database. The details option will provide information about the database, including topics covered, publication / coverage dates included, as well as a durable URL for the database itself. If you would like to bookmark a database, use the durable links provided for the resource. These durable links will directly connect you to specific UNB Libraries' holdings.

Most UNB Libraries' databases combine indexing/abstracting and full-text retrieval. A database can index (meaning: list) and provide abstracts (meaning: thumbnail sketch) for all items but only provide access to the full-text for some items. This is why a search in UNB Libraries' databases generates a list of results that do not represent all of the full-text holdings available at UNB Libraries. You may retrieve search results that have direct links to "html full-text" or "pdf full-text" but also, in the same list, have links that ask you to "Check for full-text." These links with the UNB sail symbol will direct you to a search for the resource.

Items that are not available in UNB Libraries' collection can be requested through the document delivery system from other libraries.

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If you have any questions about the resources or about your research, talk to us via the ask us chat on the library's home page.