Finding Articles

For the Faculty of Education and Social Work

What are scholarly articles?

Where do I start?
Library Search: Articles & More and Google Scholar are two great search tools for finding articles as they are easy to use and they search across multiple databases at the same time. However, they don't cover everything and have limited search functionality so you may need a library database too.

What’s a library database?

What if I need more articles?
Education and Social Work subject guides list the best databases and websites for your subject area, as well as providing search tips and referencing links.

What keywords or search terms should I use?
Develop a concept map before you start so that you have a list of good keyword terms to search on.

What if I don’t find relevant articles?
You might need a different database, or you might need to adjust your search strategy as in this table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What’s the Problem?</th>
<th>Which Power search technique helps?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Too few results</td>
<td>Search using synonyms eg. teenagers, youth, adolescents, adolescence, young adult</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too many results</td>
<td>Remove concepts eg. Instead of: honeybees and dance and communicate Try: bees and dance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Results not specific enough</td>
<td>Add concepts eg. Instead of: corporate and ethics Try: corporate and ethics and McDonald's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logs in only</td>
<td>Search for keywords in the title only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logs in only</td>
<td>Use broader terms eg. Instead of: drug addiction Try: addiction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logs in only</td>
<td>Apply limits eg. date, type of publication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logs in only</td>
<td>Try phrase searching eg. “binge drinking,” “social responsibility”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Need more help?
Contact your Subject Librarian.