

Social Sciences Research Guide

Get to the databases:

<http://www.csulb.edu/library> > database by topic> communication studies

Get to the Slides: <http://www.csulb.edu/~ttravis/classes/communications.htm>

Terminology

Citations Article Title, Author, Journal Title, Volume Number, Issue Number, Page Number, Date

Abstract Summary of article, tells what the article is about

SFX Links you to the full text of the article if its available

Before you get to the computer...

1. Start with a Research Topic
2. Identify keywords & synonyms
3. Create search statements using And, Or, W1

AND narrows a search.

example: television AND viewing

OR broadens a search.

example: viewing OR watching

W1 makes your terms appear together as a phrase

example: reality w1 television

Helpful Search Tips

Truncation *

Allows you to include all possible word-endings

Theor* looks for theory, theories and theorize

Parenthesis

Can be used to greatly expand or restrict a search

(internet or online) and social w1 interaction

Tips for Reading Scholarly info

- Carefully read the abstract and the literature review
- Pay close attention to the theory applied
- Read the methodology and look for any possible problems with the methods
- Look closely at the results and conclusion section

Psycinfo Search tips

- Use subjects to narrow your search
- Use publication type, methodology or age group to make your search smaller
- Type the word *communication* in the “journal articles” box to eliminate psychology journals
- Email using APA format

Communication and Mass Media complete

- ALWAYS click on the Scholarly Peer Reviewed option
- Try the “more like this option”

Review the TWO step process for getting journal articles

Step ONE

- Get citations from index
- Author, title, journal title, volume, page number year

Step TWO

- If you are using a research database click on the SFX link if it is available
- If there is no online full text and print is not available in COAST then click on the ArticleReach link and get the article emailed to you for FREE!!

APA Paper Formatting and Style Guide (Purdue University)

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

Communication Theories

Definitions

Interpersonal communication

<http://www.uky.edu/~drlane/capstone/interpersonal/>

<http://www.uky.edu/~drlane/capstone/persuasion/>

Mass Media <http://www.uky.edu/~drlane/capstone/mass/>

How to Get a Library Password

Go to Coast <https://coast.library.csulb.edu/patroninfo>

Type in your name, CSULB I.D. #, and a PIN/Password number of your choice

Confirm Password by typing it twice more

If just shows your name- it worked!

STILL Need Help?

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