

Web Searches

Due at the Start of Lab: Lab Assignment 2

Rationale for Today's Lab Session

This tutorial is designed to ensure that you have basic skills in searching for researchers, grants, and articles in the field of psychology. The tutorial is generic, so attempt to customize the searches using terms of your own personal interest or of interest to your research lab.

Objectives

- Learn to use NIH Reporter
- Learn to use PsycInfo
- Learn to use Google Scholar

Instructions

NIH Reporter

- NIH Reporter lets you search through listings of grants federally funded by the National Institutes of Health. It is a useful strategy for identifying cutting-edge areas of research, searching for mentors and collaborators at Tulane and elsewhere, and potentially finding avenues for employment and/or graduate school.
- Access NIH Reporter
 - Google “nih reporter”
 - Or access <http://projectreporter.nih.gov/reporter.cfm>
- Review the search features. The Query page is organized into several main blocks: (1) Researcher and Organization, (2) Text Search, (3) Project Details, and (4) Additional Filters. Click on some of the LOOKUP and SELECT buttons to see what they do. You can click on CLEAR QUERY at the bottom of the page to restore everything to the default search settings.
- Researcher and Organization Search
 - Conduct several searches using the PI Last Name feature. How many funded grant applications are there for the name Roberts? How about Drury? What about your last name?
 - Conduct a search for Catherine Taylor. How many grants appear? What university has the grant? Click on the Project Title for the first one. What is the grant about? What is the 1st “specific aim” of the grant? What type of psychology student might be interested in working with Dr. Taylor? Who in the community might want to participate in the study?

- On the Query page, conduct an Organization search for Tulane. Beware that these searches are sometimes slow. How many grants does Tulane have? How does this compare with “Loyola University in New Orleans”? “Louisiana State Univ”? Search for some other universities (e.g., where you’re applying to graduate school, favorite college sports team, etc.). Who can find which U.S. university has the most grants?
- Text Search
 - Conduct a text search for “personality” – how many grants appear? Conduct additional searches for the following topics: “prostate cancer,” “sex therapy,” “ethnicity,” “dopamine,” “basketball,” and “social psychology” – which topics yield the most grants? Search for some of your favorite topics in psychology. What seems to generate the most hits? The fewest?
 - Combine the Text Search with the Researcher / Organization Search. How many grants are being conducted in New Jersey on the topic of depression? What about Tulane studies on behavior? Review the abstracts for each of these grants by clicking on their titles – which one is of most interest to you?

PsycINFO

- PsycINFO is the long-standing search engine for psychology research. Google Scholar is an excellent, and perhaps superior, general search engine, but PsychINFO is useful if Google Scholar yields search results with too much non-psychology research, or if you wish to restrict the search to a very specific category of publications (e.g., peer-reviewed journal articles on clinical psychological testing, for school age children).
- Access PsycINFO by going to this web site, clicking “P,” and selecting PsycINFO
 - <http://library.tulane.edu/resources/databases>
- Conduct a search for “IQ testing” – how many results appear? What article is first?
- Now conduct a search for “IQ testing,” but restrict the search to articles with the Classification Code “2224 Clinical Psychological Testing,” Publication Type “Peer Reviewed Journal,” and Age Groups “School Age” and “Adolescence” (using the control-click). How many articles appear? What article is first?
- For that article, click “Linked Full Text” to reveal the article.

Google Scholar

- Google Scholar is great for doing quick searches. It has several simple features for restricting publications to a particular year, journal, etc. It also has features that ease referencing in APA style.
- Access Google Scholar
 - Google “google scholar” or access <http://scholar.google.com>

- Basic Search
 - Search for the following phrase: adolescent depression
 - On the first page of the search results, what is the most highly cited article?
 - Now restrict the search to “Since 2010” – what’s the most cited article?
 - Now restrict the search to “Since 2013” – what’s the most cited article?
 - In your opinion, what is the best (recent and highly cited) article on aggression? What about suicide? ADHD? Stereotype threat? Make sure to ignore books, patents, and other non-articles that infiltrate the results.

- Advanced Search
 - Click on the triangle next to the search prompt. A pop-up will appear. Conduct a search for all articles published in the journal “Personality and Individual Differences” since 2010. What’s the most cited article?
 - Now search for articles published in the “Journal of Personality and Social Psychology” since 2013. What is the first article listed? What’s the most cited article on the first page? Now, restrict the search to only include articles on the topic of ESP. What controversial article rises to the top?

- Profile Search
 - Some researchers have professional profiles, which help to organize all of their published articles. Do a basic search for Sian Beilock. A link to her profile appears at the top of the search results. Click on it. Sort her publications by year. What was her most cited article in 2013? Conduct similar searches for some of the researchers you know to see if they have profiles available.

- Downloading and Citing Articles
 - If on campus, you can access articles directly through Google Scholar, rather than going through the Tulane library web site
 - Conduct a basic search for “Stigma as a barrier to recovery from mental illness,” and click on “Get full-text” to the right of the search results to access the article. Does it load properly? Use this same technique to load a recent article of your choosing on “marital satisfaction.”
 - Conduct a basic search for “Construct validity in psychological tests,” and click on the Cite link. The APA-style citation is 99% accurate, but there is one formatting error and one piece of missing information. How would you manually fix the citation?

Quiz Game

- Lab Instructor will provide instructions

Dismissal

- Following completion of the quiz game, students can use the remaining time to complete their CITI training (if still incomplete) or may be dismissed early