

To find articles on your topic, use the Libraries' databases. From the library homepage, click on the databases link. You can start with a multidisciplinary database like Academic Search Complete to get a broad range of articles on your topic.

Let's try a search for recycling.

Since this topic is so broad, we have over 40 thousand results. That's way too many to go through, so we need to narrow our search. You can narrow your search in Academic Search Complete in a number of ways. You can narrow by source type, or you can narrow by adding another keyword. Let's add college students.

Recycling and college students are connected by AND in this search. This tells the database that we need results that include both of these terms. It's like a Venn diagram. We're only interested in the articles in which these two concepts overlap.

Our results list is much smaller now. With 56 results, we can easily browse the articles to see if they seem relevant. Let's take a look at result number one, from the Scandinavian Journal of Psychology. If you click on the title, you can learn more about the article. In EBSCO databases, each article has a toolbar on the right side that allows you to email, print, save, and even cite the article you're seeing. Be sure to check these citations before turning in your paper.

Academic Search Complete has many full text articles. Typically, you will see the full text options on the left side of the page. Usually, you will see options like PDF Full Text, HTML Full text, Linked Full Text, or "Check for Full text." We have other tutorials that can help you learn more about locating the full text of an article through the "Check for Full Text" link.

Questions about narrowing your search? You can always Ask Us.