



Quality Research ... Guaranteed!

Step 1:

Try to use articles from *scholarly* or *peer-reviewed* magazines and newspapers.

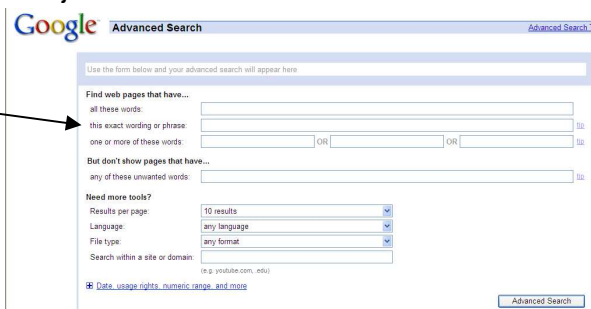
- Use a database that allows you to limit your searches to *scholarly* and/or *peer-reviewed* (*juried* or *refereed*).
 - EBSCOhost databases including:
 - Health Source: Consumer Edition
 - Health Source: Nursing/Academic Edition
 - MAS Ultra - School Edition
 - Professional Development Collection
 - ProQuest databases including:
 - Alt-Press Watch
 - ProQuest Research Library
- Use UlrichsWeb to determine if the publication is peer-reviewed.
 - Search by publication title.
 - Look for this symbol , which indicates the publication is refereed.

 [American Journal of Psychology](#) University of United States 0002-9556 1887 Active
Illinois Press

Step 2:

Does the author write on a particular subject? Can you find biographical information on the author?

- Using our library databases, search for the author. What else has the author written? Does the author focus on a particular subject?
- Using Google, do an Advanced Search of the Author's first and last name in the "exact wording or phrase" box. What else has the author written? Does the author focus on a particular subject?



The image shows a screenshot of the Google Advanced Search interface. The form includes fields for "Find web pages that have..." with sub-sections for "all these words:", "this exact wording or phrase:", and "one or more of these words:". There are also fields for "But don't show pages that have..." and "Need more tools?" with dropdown menus for "Results per page", "Language", and "File type". A search button labeled "Advanced Search" is at the bottom right. An arrow points from the text in Step 2 to the "this exact wording or phrase" field.

Step 3:

Find information on the book(s) used in your research.

- If the book(s) do not have an author or editor, search for information about the publisher. Using Google, do an Advanced Search of the publisher in the "exact phrase" box.
- Using "Book Review Digest" (use the library's catalog for call number and location details), find book reviews.

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HELPFUL RESEARCH DEFINITIONS

juried

See: peer-reviewed.

peer-reviewed

Said of a scholarly journal that requires an article to be subjected to a process of critical evaluation by one or more experts on the subject, known as referees, responsible for determining if the subject of the article falls within the scope of the publication and for evaluating originality, quality of research, clarity of presentation, etc. Changes may be suggested to the author(s) before an article is finally accepted for publication. Some bibliographic databases allow search results to be limited to peer-reviewed journals. Synonymous with *juried* and *refereed*.

primary source

In scholarship, a document or record containing firsthand information or original data on a topic, used in preparing a derivative work. Primary sources include original manuscripts, periodical articles reporting original research or thought, diaries, memoirs, letters, journals, photographs, drawings, posters, film footage, sheet music, songs, interviews, government documents, public records, eyewitness accounts, newspaper clippings, etc. The History Section of the Reference and User Services Association within the American Library Association provides a guide to *Using Primary Sources on the Web*. Compare with secondary source and tertiary source.

refereed

See: peer-reviewed.

secondary source

Any published or unpublished work that is one step removed from the original source, usually describing, summarizing, analyzing, evaluating, derived from, or based on primary source materials, for example, a review, critical analysis, second-person account, or biographical or historical study. Also refers to material other than primary sources used in the preparation of a written work. Compare with tertiary source.

tertiary source

A written work, such as a chapter in a textbook or entry in a reference book, based entirely on secondary sources, rather than on original research involving primary documents. Whether a source is secondary or tertiary can be determined by examining the bibliography (if one is provided). Another clue is that secondary sources are almost always written by experts, but tertiary sources may be written by staff writers who have an interest in the topic but are not scholars on the subject.

Definitions excerpted from Reitz, Joan M. "ODLIS: Online Dictionary for Library and Information Science." ODLIS: Online Dictionary for Library and Information Science. 2004. Libraries Unlimited. 14 Feb. 2005 <<http://lu.com/odlis/>>.

If you have any questions or need assistance,
ASK our FRIENDLY LIBRARIANS!