

Student Services &  
Post-Secondary Education  
A Research Survival Kit



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**Consulting a librarian** (Ask Early! – Ask Often!)

Me – Chris Neuhaus [chris.neuhaus@uni.edu](mailto:chris.neuhaus@uni.edu) (e-mail works best) or 273-3718

Reference Desk 273-2838 (ask for a Reference Librarian)

Research Consultation <http://www.library.uni.edu/library-instruction/request-research-consultation>

Ref Desk e-mail <http://www.library.uni.edu/ask-us-email>

Ref Desk chat <http://askus.library.uni.edu/>

**Locating Education Research - Articles** (from the library website – click on “Databases A-Z”)

**ERIC (EBSCO)** – Limit to Abstract or Title. Discover good subject headings.

**Education Full Text** – Limit to Document Type, Search History

**Education Index Retrospective** – Search historical material back to 1923

**JSTOR** – Narrow to Discipline “Education” and search historical material back to ~ 1900

**Web of Knowledge** – Can sort results by “Times Cited” (free **EndNote Web**)

**Locating Behavioral Research – Articles** (from the library website – click on “Databases A-Z”)

**PsycINFO** – Limit to Publication Type, methodology, etc., Thesaurus, Search History, Index

**Sociological Abstracts** - “Search Tools” (Thesaurus and Combine Searches)

**Social Services Abstracts** – “Search Tools” (Thesaurus and Combine Searches)

**Books**

**eBrary** – online books (under “Databases A – Z”).

## **Books**

UNISTAR (Books & More) (books in the UNI Library)	<a href="http://unistar.uni.edu/search~S1/X">http://unistar.uni.edu/search~S1/X</a> Use Advanced Search
Google Books (partial view online)	<a href="http://books.google.com/advanced_book_search">http://books.google.com/advanced_book_search</a> Use Advanced Search – Set to “Limited preview and full view”
WorldCat (search all academic libraries)	<a href="http://www.worldcat.org/advancedsearch">http://www.worldcat.org/advancedsearch</a> Use Advanced Search

## **Hard to Find Items**

Google Scholar	<a href="http://scholar.google.com/">http://scholar.google.com/</a> ( <b>Settings:</b> “Library links” = Northern Iowa)
Google Books	<a href="http://books.google.com/">http://books.google.com/</a>
OneSearch!	<a href="http://www.library.uni.edu">http://www.library.uni.edu</a>

## **Rules of Thumb**

Too many results

- Try searching for terms/topics/ideas in the **Title or Abstract** of the Article
- Use the Thesaurus
- Contact a librarian

No results or not enough results

- Find other terms/words for your topic
- Try a Different Database
- Look in large “super” databases such as OneSearch! or Google Scholar
- Contact a librarian

## **Search Tricks**

Put an asterisk - \* - at the end of the root of a word to find all versions:  
e.g. abus\* .... abuse, abused, abusive, abuses, abusers, abusing,

Combine separate concepts with “**AND**” .....  
e.g. homeless\* **AND** Iowa

Combine similar concepts (synonyms) with “**OR**” and parentheses  
e.g. child\* and (neglect\* **OR** abus\* **OR** abandon\*)