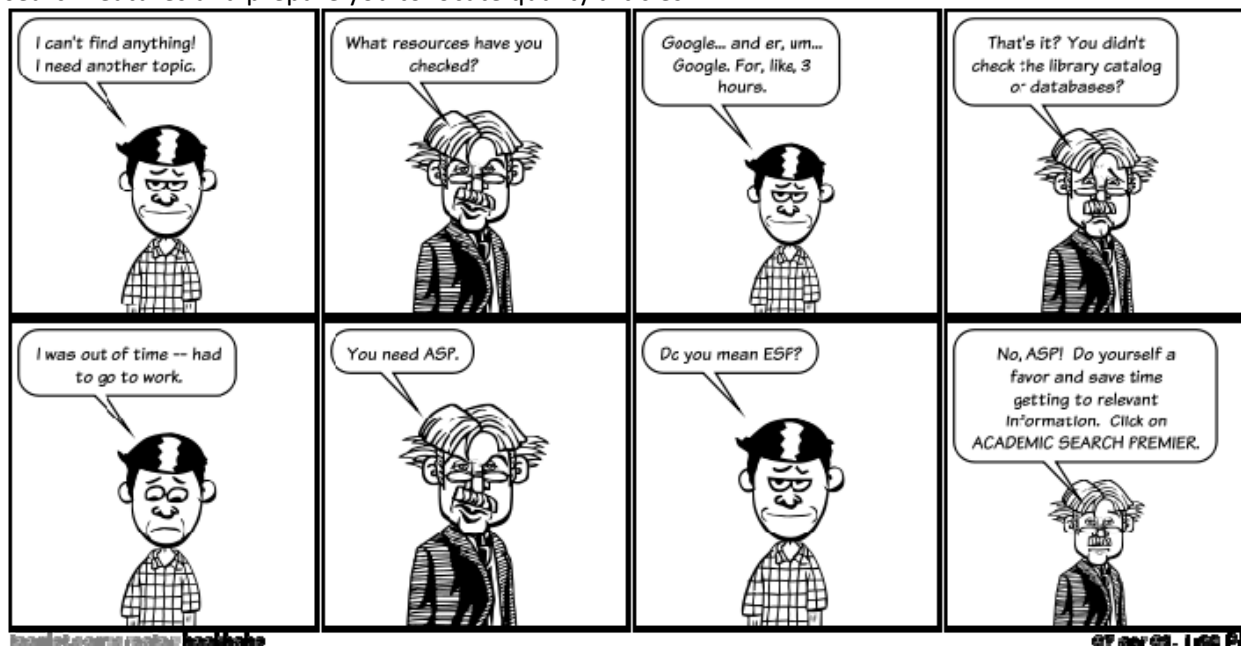




ACADEMIC SEARCH PREMIER DATABASE ADVANCED SEARCH EXERCISE

Exercise objective: This exercise will introduce you to several of Academic Search Premier’s advanced search features and prepare you to locate quality articles.



Overview of vocabulary: Academic journals, also known as scholarly journals or peer-reviewed journals, contain articles that are checked for quality by a board of specialists in the field. “Default” setting refers to the initial search setting. You can return to default settings by clicking “Clear”. “Full Text” refers to the entire original content of an article. Databases generally contain both full text articles and article citations. “Citation” refers to the bibliographic information and any enriched information, such as subject terms (descriptors) and abstracts (summaries). Understanding these distinctions will often save you time.

- From the library website, click on **General databases**, then **Academic Search Premier**. You are now on the Basic Search screen. Click on Advanced Search underneath the search rectangle. You can save yourself a lot of research time if you review some search tips. Click on the drop-down box to the right of the search rectangle, where it says “Select a Field (optional)”. If no field is selected, your search will go through the citation and abstract.
 Which field would you select to search the entire text of articles? _____
 Which field would you select to limit a search to a place name? _____

2. Look at the “Search Options” area halfway down the page. Note where to select a specific **document type**.

Is there a document type “book review”? yes/no

Is there a document type “cartoon”? yes/no

Leave the document type set to the default, “All”.

Note where to check to limit a search to articles with **Full Text**, and check the box.

3. Look at your research assignment, topic, thesis statement, and research questions. Write out the keywords and phrases that you think might be useful for locating articles. Brainstorm for a few more seconds to expand the list.

- a. Using keywords that you listed above, compose a search using at least two search rectangles with the default field and default operator, “and”. Write your search here:

- b. How many articles did Academic Search Premier locate? _____

- c. Your search can be narrowed by the type of source. Click on **Academic Journals** in the left column. Now how many articles are listed? _____

- d. Click on one of the article citations that seem relevant to your thesis.

1. Is the Full Text article attached? yes/no

2. Who is the author(s) of the article?

3. What is the title of the article?

4. In what journal did the article appear?

5. In what volume and issue number?

6. What is the date of publication?

7. Does your article citation contain subject terms? If so, list the ones that would be useful for further searches.

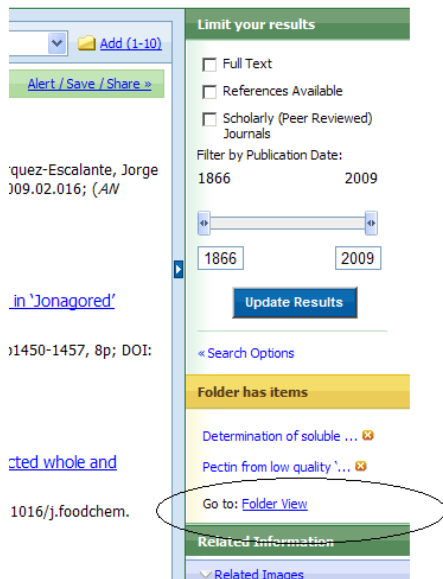
8. Practice managing your research by placing your citation/article in an electronic folder. Click on the folder icon. The icon changes and says: _____.

4. We've learned a lot about Academic Search Premier, but we've only composed one search so far. Now try the **Subject Terms** tab (upper blue bar) to browse an alphabetical list for your main topic. Using either a keyword you wrote down earlier, or a synonym you discovered in the last search, type it into the second rectangle and click the blue **Browse** button.
 - a. Did your terminology happen to match the database's alphabetical list? yes/no
 - b. Write down the subject term suggested, or if none found, write down a relevant term.

 - c. Select the subject term by checking it and click the blue **Add** button. Notice that an advanced search string is now in the search rectangle. Click **Search**. How many articles did your search locate? _____. Add one of them to your "folder".

5. You've now completed two searches in Academic Search Premier! As you continue to practice searching, remember to add interesting articles to a temporary electronic folder. (The folder is lost when you close your browser.) Use the "folder view" to select articles for emailing or printing.

Take a moment to locate the "folder view" link in the right hand column.



Can you get into your folder and view two items? yes/no

6. Some student researchers choose to automate their entries for their Works Cited page. Let's try this with what is in your folder. Select both entries. Click on the floppy disc icon. Select **Citation Format MLA** (used in most courses.) Click the blue **Save** button. Your entries appear under the heading **Works Cited**. Note that there can be some slight discrepancies. For example, sometimes the author's name is in ALL CAPS. You can copy and paste the citations into MSWord, but you might have to manually fix formatting errors and correct discrepancies. Initial here if you were able to automate your two MLA citations _____.