



Core Resources for Social Work

Databases

Visit the Databases page to locate databases by subject, keyword or title. Click the Databases link on the Levy Library homepage, or go directly to: <http://fusion.mssm.edu/levy/databases>

Social Work Abstracts

Social Work Abstracts is produced by the National Association of Social Workers and indexes articles from over 500 leading social work journals. It's available on the OvidSP search platform.

- Enter a few words or a question into the Basic Search box. Check the "Include Related Terms" box for more results.
- Or, try the "Multi Field Search" to specify an author, journal or series to search
 - Author search: **last name [space] first initial asterisk** (no punctuation) – e.g. **Smith A***
- Use Limits to retrieve articles from specific years (note: it is NOT recommended to limit your search to Full Text as the search will not retrieve all of the full text articles that are available to you as a Mount Sinai employee)
- Scroll down to see your search results, and use the Search Aid on the left to expand or narrow your results
- Use the "Change Database" link to select multiple databases to search simultaneously; e.g. Social Work Abstracts and PsycINFO

Social Services Abstracts

Social Services Abstracts provides citations to thousands of articles in social work and human services, including areas like community and mental health services, crisis intervention, social and health policy and gerontology.

- Under the Search Tools tab, follow the Thesaurus link for a precise search using subject headings
- Or, in the Quick Search tab, use * to truncate terms in order to search for multiple related words; e.g. **alcohol*** retrieves alcohol, alcoholic, alcoholics, alcoholism, etc.
- Use an upper-case AND to combine topics (alcoholism AND inpatients), OR to find either one of two or more topics (alcoholism OR drug addiction), or NOT to exclude topics (drug addiction NOT alcoholism)
- Use the Advanced Search tab's drop-down menus to search for specific authors, journals, etc.
- On the Quick Search tab, follow the "specific databases" link select multiple databases to search simultaneously (e.g., search Social Services Abstracts and Sociological Abstracts)

MEDLINE from PubMed

MEDLINE has a medical focus, but includes citations to many articles about social work in health care settings. PubMed is our preferred interface for searching MEDLINE at Mount Sinai.

- Use the MeSH database for subject searching, to focus on specific aspect of a topic
- Use the Limits tab to limit a search by publication type, publication date, etc.
- Author Search: **last name [space] first initial middle initial** (no punctuation) – e.g. **Smith AB**
- Use the Clipboard as a temporary saving space while doing searches
- Create a MyNCBI account to save references, save and rerun searches and have new citations emailed to you

For More Info on PubMed: View our **PubMed Tutorial** available at: <http://www.mssm.edu/library/tutorials/pubmed.html>

Web of Knowledge/Web of Science

The Web of Knowledge database provides Web access to the Social Sciences Citation Indexes from the Institute for Scientific Information (ISI). Use this database to search for the number of times an article has been cited, identify highly cited authors, view the bibliographies of articles, and to trace the evolution of a topic.

- If you have one good article, use Web of Knowledge to find more recent articles that have cited the one you have
- Author search: **last name [space] first initial asterisk** (no punctuation) – e.g. **Smith A***
- When searching for topics, use * to truncate, and use AND, OR and NOT operators for a more powerful search

Google Scholar

Google Scholar can be useful if you want just one good article or need to do a quick citation search. We've enabled our OpenURL service in Google Scholar—look for a link to [Resources at Levy Library](#) or [Full-Text at Levy Library](#). The link opens up to the Levy Library FIND IT page.

PsycINFO

PsycINFO is an extensive psychological database from the American Psychological Association. It is available on the OvidSP platform and can be searched in the same way as Social Work Abstracts.

Sociological Abstracts

Sociological Abstracts provides citations to articles, dissertations and books from over 2500 journals in sociology and related areas. It is available on the platform CSA Illumina, and is searched in the same way.

Finding Full Text

FIND IT (the “yellow button”): Levy Library’s OpenURL service provides a path to full text for all of the online journals licensed by the Library. FIND IT retrieves links to the article and/or e-journal (if available); links to a Levy Library Catalog search for print material, and links to an interlibrary loan request form. Levy Library has enabled the FIND IT service in many databases, including PubMed, PsycINFO and Web of Knowledge. FIND IT **does not** work in the databases Social Services Abstracts or Sociological Abstracts; use the Levy Library’s E-journals database and Catalog to search for the full text of articles found in these databases.

LinkOut (the “blue button”): In PubMed only, this button allows users to link directly to the full text of designated articles.

E-journals Database: Follow the link on the Levy Library homepage to this database to search for online journals using the title of the journal.

Catalog: Follow the link on the Levy Library homepage to the catalog to search for print copies of journals (print journals are all located on the 10th floor of the Library).

Interlibrary Loan: Follow the link on the Levy Library homepage to ILLiad, our Interlibrary Loan system. Once you have registered for the free service, you can request journal articles and books from other Libraries.

Reference Management Software

Bibliographic management software, such as RefWorks and EndNote, allows you to organize your research, import references from online databases, and automatically format the in-text citations and bibliographies of your papers. The library has a site license for a web-based bibliographic citation manager called RefWorks and offers the popular desktop program, EndNote, at a substantial discount.

- **Use EndNote:** Purchase EndNote X2 (Windows or Mac) from the Med School Computing Help Desk. EndNote is also installed on Levy Library computers and in many labs. In addition to citation management, EndNote offers word processing templates following "Instructions for Authors" for many key journals, and the ability to store and cite images, charts, or graphs.
- **Access RefWorks:** Because it is web based, you may access RefWorks from any computer with Internet access. While on campus, go to <http://www.refworks.com> or click the link on the Databases page. For off-campus access, use the link on the Databases page or go directly to www.refworks.com and enter our Mount Sinai RefWorks group code. The group code is emailed to you when you sign up for an account.

Books – Print and Online

Search the Levy Library Catalog (follow the link from the homepage) to search among the 30,000 print books in the Library. Or, follow the link from the homepage to E-Books to access our growing collection of online books; many of which are easily searchable and frequently updated. Browse the core e-books by subject, or search one or more of our e-book collections.

Questions and Assistance

Librarians are available to help you with questions big and small! For questions, contact a librarian by email, IM, telephone or in-person using the contact information on this handout or at <http://www.mssm.edu/library/services/askus.shtml>. To schedule a research consult for in-depth assistance with your specific project, contact us at (212) 241-7204 or refdesk@mssm.edu. We will gladly provide research assistance, database instruction, and library tours and orientations for individuals and small groups.