

## PsycINFO

### What Is It?

**PsycINFO** from the American Psychological Association (APA) contains approximately 3 million citations and summaries of scholarly journal articles, book chapters, books, and dissertations, all in psychology and related disciplines, dating as far back as the 1800s. 97 percent of the covered material is peer-reviewed. Journal coverage, which spans 1887 to present, includes international material selected from around 2,400 periodicals in more than 25 languages. This is not a full text database but it may be possible to link to the full text article if the university has a subscription.

### How Do I Access It?

- Click on 'Connect to' **PsycINFO**
- This will take you to the **EBSCO** host site, where you can begin your search. You can also choose other databases from this page by clicking on **Choose Databases** and selecting from the list

NB: If you are off campus you will need to authenticate

### Help

This sheet is a brief guide to searching this database. You can click on the Online Help button at the top of the screen at any time.

### Searching

You will generally use the search facility of this database when you are looking for articles on a particular subject. So think about your search terms. Enter the term you are looking for in the box and click on **Search**. Decide if you want to search for the exact phrase, all your search words or any of the words.

You can **Limit** your results by:

- Linked Full Text: the full text article might be in another Ebsco database
- Date: sometimes you might only want the most recent
- Publication: can limit your search to a particular journal
- Whether it is in a Scholarly/peer-reviewed journal: this is a very important limit and should be used. This database does contain articles from lightweight journals as well as the more academic ones. Using this limit will ensure your results are from academic journals

You can **Expand** your search to:

- Search within full-text articles
- Also search for related words

If you receive a message that indicates no results were found, you may want to change or broaden your search terms and try running the search again.

### Journal Search

If you are looking for a particular journal or journal article, you can type the name of the journal using the **Publications** tab at the top of the screen. You

will be presented with an A-Z list of the publications available. Click on the blue title and the years available will be displayed.

### **Displaying Records**

Once you have clicked on search your results list will appear. You can save an article or citation directly from the results screen or you can add selected results to the **Folder** and print/save or export from there. Once you have added an item to the folder the icon changes, so that you can then remove the item as well. You may run several searches and save some results from each search. When you have completed your searches you can view your saved results in the session folder. The folder will detail how many items you have saved in it. ***It is important that you create an EbscoHost account if you want to use these searches/references in future sessions.***

### **Linking to Full Text**

PsycInfo is a bibliographic database which means it is not a full text database. However many of the journals indexed are on the EbscoHost web site and it offers a direct link to the full text. Other articles could be from subscriptions in other collections. PsycInfo offers an option to “find full text through LinkSource”. Clicking on this button is an easy way of checking whether we have a subscription or not.

### **Printing**

Click on the record you want to print to bring up the full record. Click on the **Print icon** at the top of the screen. You will get another screen where you will have to click print again, and then you will be given the option to include a brief or full citation and a range of different formats. If you want to print out the full article (assuming it is available in full text) then you will need to bring up the pdf first.

### **Saving**

From the **Folder**, click on the **floppy disk icon** or **Save to File** at the top of the screen. You can also tick to save the **html link**. Follow on screen options.

### **Email**

Click on the **Email icon** at the top of the screen. You will need to type in the destination email address and a subject. There are various options for configuring what is in the email including the full text article.

### **Refworks**

Click on the **Export Icon** at the top of the screen, choose **Refworks** and you will be taken to the **Refworks** home page. Login using your **Refworks** account details and your reference(s) will be exported into Refworks.

### **Quitting**

You can click the **back button** at any time to return to the previous page. Clicking on Edge Hill University will take you back to our web pages where you will need to re-select Library Catalogue to continue searching.

**Remember – If you need help or advice, ask at one of the Help Desks**