

Psychology <http://www.lib.washington.edu/subject/Psychology/>

PsycINFO Covers academic, research, and practice literature in psychology and related disciplines

The screenshot shows the OvidSP search interface. At the top, there are navigation links for 'Wolters Kluwer Health' and 'OvidSP'. Below this, there are tabs for 'Basic Search', 'Find Citation', 'Search Tools', 'Search Fields', and 'Ovid Syntax'. The 'Basic Search' tab is active, showing a search box with radio buttons for 'Keyword', 'Author', 'Title', and 'Journal'. A checkbox for 'Map Term to Subject Heading' is checked. Below the search box, there is a 'Limits' section with a dropdown arrow. The 'Search History' section shows two searches: 'DUCKS/' with 388 results and 'Animal Aggressive Behavior/' with 6495 results. The 'Search Results' section shows the search terms used: 'aggressive' and 'animal'. The 'Search Aid' section shows the search terms used: 'aggressive' and 'animal'. The 'Search History' table is as follows:

	#	Searches	Results	Display
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	DUCKS/	388	DISPLAY
<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Animal Aggressive Behavior/	6495	DISPLAY

off-campus access
(log in)

Login *before* clicking on the database name if you are off-campus.

Check for
UW holdings

Use this to find the full-text of the articles you want.

► **Map to Subject Heading** matches your search term APA subject headings. Type in your keyword, make sure the 'Map Term' box is checked, click 'Search', and select one or more choices from the list of subject headings that appear. *This eliminates a lot of guess work and is highly recommended!*

► You can combine search by choosing "And" after the **Combine Selections with** option that displays at the bottom of your search history. Check boxes of the results that you want to combine, then choose "And" to find the records with *all selected search terms*.

► Applying **limits** to a search filters the results and reduces the number of records. You can limit by many factors including methodology (literature reviews, empirical studies), date of publication, and publication type (journals, books, dissertations).

SEARCH TIPS

1. Psychology is a very interdisciplinary field; while PsycINFO is an excellent starting point, be sure to search databases from a variety of disciplines.
2. Search for empirical studies that can inform your topic; do not focus solely on finding articles that examine your exact topic down to the finest detail. For example, if I was working on a case report regarding teenage parents of children with Downs Syndrome, I might look for articles about a) parents of children with disabilities (any age parent, any type of disability), and b) teenage parents' support systems (these do not have to be parents of disabled children) and c) families of people with Downs Syndrome (these can discuss various family issues, not just parenting). I can use my own knowledge and observations to pull out the relevant pieces of each study.
3. If your topic is too broad, search for literature review articles that provide an overview of research in your area of interest. Use these articles to help you learn about and focus on a specific area.
4. Take advantage of the work others have done! When you find an article that is relevant to your topic, use the bibliography to find more articles.

SUBJECT GUIDES

Medicine <http://www.lib.washington.edu/subject/Health/>

- PubMed, Web of Science

American Ethnic Studies <http://www.lib.washington.edu/subject/EthnicStudies/>

- Sociological Abstracts
- More research databases in American Ethnic Studies
<http://www.lib.washington.edu/Subject/EthnicStudies/indexes.html>

Communication <http://www.lib.washington.edu/subject/Communications/>

- Communication Abstracts, Communication & Mass Media Complete
- Gender, Ethnicity, and Race in Mass Communication
<http://www.uiowa.edu/commstud/resources/GenderMedia/>

Social Work <http://www.lib.washington.edu/subject/SocialWork/>

- Social Work Abstracts, Social Services Abstracts

Interdisciplinary Databases <http://www.lib.washington.edu/types/databases/>

- Expanded Academic Index, ProQuest

GETTING HELP

- Find databases in other disciplines UW Libraries website:
<http://www.lib.washington.edu/subject/>
- Get help 24/7: <http://www.lib.washington.edu/about/contacts.html>
- Ask me for help: barrettl@u.washington.edu