

## Search for articles

### Video Transcript

The library provides access to thousands of scholarly journals, with articles covering the entire curriculum of the college. No matter what your research topic is, there are related scholarly articles you can use.

This video is about how to find a journal article about your research topic. If you are looking for a specific article that you know the name of, check out our video called "I need this particular article"

Let's say you are writing a paper about opioid addiction in the United States, and how race shapes the ways that addiction is treated by health professionals and the criminal justice system.

Your paper is due soon and you need scholarly articles for your research.

Start at [library.mills.edu](http://library.mills.edu), then click on Databases & Articles.

This is a list of all the full text databases that the library has access to. Each one is full of thousands of scholarly articles.

Some of the databases are specific to a particular discipline, meaning an academic subject such as economics or ethnic studies.

Because your topic is interdisciplinary, meaning that scholars might be writing about it in many different academic subjects, you'll want to use an interdisciplinary database.

Scroll down to Proquest Research Library.

This is one of the biggest interdisciplinary databases that the library has access to.

From here, you can enter the keywords for your research topic. We have a different video to help you figure out the best keywords to use.

Searching for opioid addiction and race gives us over 2,000 results.

We can use search techniques to narrow it down.

Academic databases are like shopping on Amazon- there are various filters on the left that we can use to focus on exactly what we are looking for.

First of all, let's narrow to peer review

Scholarly, peer-reviewed, and academic pretty much mean the same thing when you looking for articles - basically these are article written and reviewed by professors or other experts.

Since your paper is due soon, we also want to limit to full text, meaning articles we can read immediately.

Finally, let's change to location to the United States, and tighten up the publication date to focus on this decade.

Depending on your results, you might want to use more filters or add another search term, but for this example, we've gotten down to almost 100 results, which allows us to scroll through and identify the most promising articles.

When you find an article you like, click on the title to open it up.

- Read through the abstract.
- Take note of the keywords for future searches.

If you decide you want to read the article, you can download the PDF or email it to yourself.

Click on the cite button to copy and paste the citation for your bibliography.

Next, head to the end of the article for the reference list or bibliography.

Scroll through to see if there are other articles or sources you may want look up.

Once you have found one good article, you can often follow the trail of research that has already been done to find more sources.

This can save you a lot of time.

It takes practice to get the hang of searching through academic databases, but they all pretty much work the same, so once you learn one, you can apply the skills with any database.

If you get stuck, come ask a librarian for help.