

How to Locate an Empirical Article Utilizing PsycINFO

Instructions: Watch Jing video file “psychinfojingproj.swf”. File is approximately five minutes long, and introduces the basic procedure for utilizing PsycINFO to locate empirical articles. After the video is finished, access PsycINFO through the University of Michigan library system and complete the following questions to test your PsycINFO skill.

1. What ‘result limitations’ need to be set before you can begin a search in PsycINFO?

Answer: Results should be limited to peer-reviewed journal articles (document type), excluding dissertations.

2. How many results appear when utilizing the key terms “undergraduates” and “drug use” as your search terms? (Make sure to set your results limiters).

Answer: 141

3. What is the title of the first article listed?

Answer: Alcohol and drug use among college student adult children of alcoholics.

4. How many authors does the article have, and from what University do the majority of authors come from?

Answer: Seven authors. Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA, US.

5. What journal was this article published in? What year was it published in?

Answer: Journal of Alcohol and Drug Education. 2009.

6. How can you tell if an article is *empirical* in nature?

Answer: Search the abstract for information on subjects/participants to make sure the author has collected data.

7. Return to the Result List screen and add a third search term: “AIDS”. This new search should return nine results. Select the third result article and open the HTML Full Text version. Who do the authors thank in their **Acknowledgement**?

Answer: “We are grateful for comments made by Alan Sears and three reviewers on earlier drafts, and for Tracey Wiltshire's assistance in data collection.”

8. Return to the Result List screen and select the first article: “Drug Use and ...” As there is no readily available HTML or PDF version, click on the “M Get It” button. How many online locations currently contain an electronic copy of this article? What is the name of the first online location?

Answer: Three. Gale Cengage Academic OneFile.

9. If you needed to locate a hardcopy of this article, where would you go?

Answer: Hatcher Graduate Library (or ask librarian about Buhr Shelving Facility)

10. What is the library's instant messaging address?

Answer: umlibraryaskus@umich.edu