Learn how to find information by using
Criminal Justice Periodicals Index (CJPI Online)

The Basic Search

The first screen which will appear is the basic search interface. To conduct a basic search, perform the following steps:

1. Enter your search term in the search box
   a. This search function is designed for simple, broad searches.
      For example, you could search using the subject terms "juvenile delinquents"

2. Select: Full Text, Peer Reviewed and Scholarly journals

The screen should look like the image below.

If you do not select Full Text, you will retrieve some articles for which the Library does not have access. To ensure you find only articles, which you can read, print, and use for assignments, select Full Text!

By selecting Peer Reviewed and Scholarly Journals, the retrieved results will be applicable for class assignments. A scholarly journal contains articles written by academics and researchers in that particular field for the sole purpose of furthering information and knowledge. The audience of these articles is fellow academics, students, and researchers. Peer reviewed articles were reviewed by an editorial board before publication and are therefore valid in terms of research method.

Results

The list of results includes only the most basic information: the title of the article, its author(s) and source, year of publication, and a few brief phrases describing the article.

Article Title · Authors · Year of Publication · Source

By clicking on the title of the article, you can view the abstract or summary of the article as well as the Subject Terms, which describe the article. Subject terms can be used to find articles on related subjects, or to broaden or narrow the search. If you're having trouble locating articles about your topic, you may find it useful to use the Subject Terms.

The Advanced Search

To search in greater detail or to find information about a combination of topics or subjects, try an advanced search.

To begin, you will notice not one, but three search boxes. Use these boxes to combine ideas, group topics, and eliminate irrelevant information. The boxes are linked by one of three terms: ABOUT, OR and NOT. The default setting is AND.

AND: Link two subject terms or keywords you would like to search together. This term narrows the search. You will retrieve a smaller number of articles.

OR: The database will look for articles that include one or both of the keywords. By using OR, you will broaden the search and increase the number of results.

NOT: If there is a subject within a greater topic you would not like to include in the search, using NOT will eliminate that information from the result list. NOT will narrow the search.

You can limit your search in other ways. If your topic(s) change and are updated frequently, and currency is an issue, you can specify how recent the retrieved articles are by using the Date range menu. If you have already selected Scholarly journals under the search boxes, you can simply select Article under Document type and select English under the Language heading.

One last point, multiple ways to search and define your search terms exist. Take a look below. You can search by title or author, if you have a specific article in mind. You can also search by journal, if you were assigned a specific journal to use. For most searches, however, the default setting, All fields + text, will suffice.

If you have questions or problems, stop by the Reference Desk for assistance!