



PSYCHOLOGY RESEARCH

Pathfinder

Your guide to finding resources on psychology topics in the PTC Library

Finding Books

Begin your research by locating books from the library collection.

How to Do a Basic Search

Visit the Library Web site at <http://www.ptc.edu/library> and click on the **Library Catalog** link. Begin your search on the **Basic Search** page. Here, you can do different types of searches and access all types of information.

1. To begin, type a term in the search box.
2. To narrow a search, select one of the following options before clicking the **Search** button:
 - Keyword (word or phrase)
 - Author
 - Title
 - Subject
 - Series
 - Periodical title
3. Select a library to search in the **Library** box, or select **Piedmont Technical College Libraries** to include all branches in the search.
4. Select **PTC Libraries and E_RESOURCES** to search for electronic books in addition to print books.

Remember to write down the whole call number!

Psychology DVDs and Videos

The Library loans most of its DVDs and VHS tapes to students; those that may not be loaned are clearly marked. Students may borrow up to 2 of these items at a time and keep them for one week.

DVD/VHS players are available for use in the Library's Viewing Rooms and at the Laurens County Higher Education Center's LRC on a first come, first served basis.

To find DVDs or Videos: Use the library catalog's Power Search, and select either *DVD* or *VHS Video* format before submitting your search.



Great Internet Sources

American Psychological Association

<http://www.apa.org>

Resources for the psychology professional, students and the public. Includes latest news in the psychology field.

American Psychiatric Association

<http://www.psych.org>

Topics related to profession including clinical resources, patient advocacy, public information, government legislation and more.

Anxiety Disorders Association of America

<http://www.adaa.org>

Public, consumer and professional resources on anxiety disorders. Also includes articles, chat room and message boards.

American Medical Association

<http://www.ama-assn.org>

Search this site for your topic. Many resources require a subscription, but some are free.

Encarta Encyclopedia

<http://encarta.msn.com>

A great place to get basic information on your topic.

Keywords

Try your topic in combination with some of these keywords to search for books, articles or Web sites:

Accounts
Cause
Diagnosis
History
Interviews
Legal Issues
Legislation
Patients
Privacy
Treatment
Reports
Research
Society
Statistics
Support Groups
Symptoms

SIRS Knowledge Source Database

What is SIRS Knowledge Source?

An online database of full-text resources drawn from a newspapers, magazines, journals, and other publications. The main emphasis of SIRS is social issues, but it also contains government documents, and articles pertaining to the arts and humanities.

Where do I find SIRS Knowledge Source?

You will find SIRS on the library's web site (<http://www.ptc.edu/library>). If prompted for a password, check with your librarian or site coordinator.

How do I use SIRS?

SIRS offers the following search options:

—**Quick Search & Advanced Search** allow you to enter in one or more keywords. SIRS attempts to find your words either in an article's text or in subject headings assigned to an article.

—**Topic Browse**, on the other hand, allows you to review a list of major categories for which there are articles in the database.

When a search is successful, a list of article titles will appear. Click on the titles that interest you to read the text and to print.

Other Online Databases

With Internet access, students may access reputable, full-text articles from several online databases!

To use these resources, visit <http://www.ptc.edu/library> and click on the **ONLINE DATABASES** link.

You will find a complete listing of databases and information about how to use each one. If you are off-campus, you will need to enter passwords that are available from the library or from the PTC Pathway's Library tab.

Here are just some database that to consider for research on psychology topics:

Academic OneFile

Academic Search Premier

Custom Newspapers

Encyclopedia Americana

Expanded Academic ASAP

General Reference Center

Grolier Encyclopedia

InfoTrac OneFile

New Book of Knowledge Encyclopedia

Psychology & Behavioral Sciences Collection

SIRS Knowledge Source



Library publications that are likely to publish articles on psychological issues include:

Current Health 2

Harvard Health Letter

Journal of Applied Psychology

Journal of Counseling Psychology

Nation's Health

Perspectives in Psychiatric Care

Psychiatric Services

Psychology

Psychology Today

Prevention

Current issues of magazines and journals are kept in the sitting area near the large windows.

Older issues are housed on the low shelves in the back of the library or on microfilm.

Checklist

Have you checked all of these resources for information on your topic?

- Encyclopedia
- Almanac
- Atlas
- Books
- E-Books
- Video Tapes
- Audio Tapes
- Newspapers
- Magazines
- Journals
- Reserve Books
- Article Databases
- Internet Sites
- Brochures

