With Google Scholar, “you can search across many disciplines and sources: peer-reviewed papers, theses, books, abstracts and articles, from academic publishers, professional societies, preprint repositories, universities and other scholarly organizations.” Google Scholar does not index popular or trade magazines. NOTE: Accessing Google Scholar through the Libraries' Electronic Databases list will enable full text access to more articles.

**Basic Searching**

Type your keywords into the search box, and press Enter, or click on the Search button. Enter single words or phrases, but enclose phrases in quotation marks. You do not need to include the word and between keywords, because Google Scholar automatically searches for all of your search terms. For example, the search below will find the same results as the search adolescents and “drug abuse”

![Google Scholar search](https://scholar.google.com)

**Author Searching**

Enter authors' names using initials, and surround the name in quotation marks. Using only the first initial results in a more comprehensive search, and will provide results for the author’s name that include both first and middle initials. A more limited search is created when you use both first and middle initials in the search -- only items where both initials appear with the author’s last name are retrieved. Spelling out the author’s first name (“andrew coats”) results in an even more limited search, as authors are most frequently cited using their initials rather than full first names.

![Google Scholar search](https://scholar.google.com)
Using the Advanced Scholar Search

Use the Advanced search option to add restrictions to your search, such as a journal title or date of publication. To open the Advanced Scholar Search screen, click on the drop-down arrow at the end of the search box. Then enter your search terms in the search form that appears below.

Using the Results Screen

Search results are ranked. Ranking factors include frequency of appearance of the search term in the text, author, perceived value of the publication, number of times cited by others, etc. The Cited by link allows you to identify other publications which have cited an article of interest to you. The Related articles link leads you to publications which are similar to the article in which you are interested.