

Searching Strategy Tips (PSU)

Database Name (Provider)	ASHA Website (High Wire Press)	Medline (First Search)	CINAHL (EBSCO)	LLBA (CSA Illumina)	PsycINFO (Ovid)
Searchable fields ** DO NOT limit yourself to keyword searches only!!!	Citation (year, volume, pages) Words in text (title, abstract, text) Author (Lastname, F)	Keyword Abstract Author (phrase) (Lastname F) MeSH* Subject Subject (phrase) Title (phrase)	Keyword Abstract Author (Lastname) Subject Headings Title	Anywhere Abstract Author Descriptor (=subject) Keyword Journal Name Title	*Go to Advanced Search* Keyword/Subject Author Title Journal Name
Index Available?	No	Yes, click  next to search term	Yes, click "Indexes" under Advanced Search tab	Click "Search Tools" tab; Select "Thesaurus" tab; Browse by 'hierarchy'	By default, "map to subject headings" is selected. From next page, select subjects that match.
Boolean default	Combines search terms with <i>AND</i>	Combines search terms with <i>AND</i>	Combines search terms with <i>AND</i>	Combines terms in each row with <i>OR</i> ; combines rows with <i>AND</i>	Each term runs a separate search. You must click "Search History" to combine terms.
Recognized Boolean	<i>AND, OR, NOT, ()</i>	<i>AND, OR, NOT, ()</i>	<i>AND, OR, NOT, ()</i>	<i>AND, OR, NOT, ()</i>	<i>AND, OR</i>
Phrases	Use "quotes"	Use <i>phrase</i> search or use "quotes"	Optional use of "quotes"	Use "quotes"	Use "quotes"
Filters/Limits	By year only	Year Article Type Language *Don't use others!	Use "Refine Search" Tab Year Language Publication Type (choose 'Journal Article') Peer Reviewed	Date Range Journal Articles Only English Only *Don't use others!	Human Journals Only English Only Date Range Other (Peer-Reviewed)
Truncation	*	*	*	*	\$
Punctuation	OK to use hyphen in Author search OK to use apostrophe, but use in quotes	Avoid punctuation (enter O'Hare as <i>ohare</i>)	Doesn't matter; Automatically looks for items with or without punctuation.	Use apostrophe or hyphen in Author searches	Avoid punctuation (enter O'Hare as <i>ohare</i>)
Capitalization	Use lowercase as default	Doesn't matter	Doesn't matter	Doesn't matter	Doesn't matter
Default viewing	By relevance Standard view (shows citation and part of abstract)	By date (most recent appear first)	By date (most recent appear first)	By date (most recent appear first) Click the "Peer-Reviewed Journals" tab	By date (most recent appear first)
Add more fields?	No	No	Click "Add Row" to right of last row.	Click "Add Row" to top right of first row.	Each term is a separate search; add as many as you like; combine later.

*MeSH = Medical Subject Headings (see index of MeSH terms)