

**Resources for Sociology 125 — "Sociological Analysis of Society"**  
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**ENCYCLOPEDIAS — CHOOSING A TOPIC; FINDING OVERVIEWS AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

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- ☞ most of these are e-books; to access, search OBIS (Catalog) by title, then follow the link in the record
- Blackwell Encyclopedia of Sociology*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Pub., 2007, + updates ~3/yr. 11 vols.
- International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Detroit: Macmillan Reference, 2008. 9 vols.
- ☞ *SocioSite*. Edited by Albert Benshop, faculty of Social Sciences, University of Amsterdam.  
<http://www.sociosite.net> – Academically-oriented web sites in sociology; choose “Subject Areas”
- Class in America: An Encyclopedia*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2007. 3 vols.
- Encyclopedia of American Education*. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. New York: Facts on File, 2007. 3 vols.  
Main Reference LB17 .U54 2007 (located in reference section on Main Level of Mudd)
- Encyclopedia of Contemporary American Social Issues*. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2011. 4 vols.
- Encyclopedia of Criminology and Criminal Justice*. New York: SpringerReference, 2014. 10 vols.
- Encyclopedia of Gender and Society*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, 2008. 2 vols.
- ☞ *Encyclopedia of Race and Racism*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Detroit, MI: Macmillan Reference USA, 2013. 4 vols.
- Encyclopedia of Race, Ethnicity, and Society*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, 2008. 3 vols.
- Encyclopedia of Social Deviance*. Thousand Oaks: SAGE Publications, 2014. 2 vols.
- Encyclopedia of Social Problems*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, 2008. 2 vols.
- Encyclopedia of Sex and Gender*. Detroit, MI: Macmillan Reference USA, 2007. 4 vols.
- Encyclopedia of Urban Studies*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, 2009. 2 vols.
- Minorities: Race and Ethnicity in America*. Detroit: Gale Cengage Learning, 2009. 2 vols.

☞ **Exercise for searching an online sociology encyclopedia to find overview articles**

1. Start at library home page, <http://www.oberlin.edu/library/>
2. Select the Catalog tab to search OBIS
3. Change the drop-down search option to Title; search: ENCYCLOPEDIA OF RACE AND RACISM
4. Choose the 2013 edition and connect to the encyclopedia
5. In the Tools box on the right, search for DISCRIMINATION in the box that says “within publication”
6. Scroll down and select the article on AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

☞ **Exercise for using SocioSite to explore topics of interest**

1. Go to Sociosite, <http://www.sociosite.net>
2. Choose Subject Areas (1<sup>st</sup> box); explore POVERTY

**FINDING BOOKS AND OTHER LIBRARY MATERIALS**

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**OBIS** is the Oberlin College Library’s online catalog; it lists most library materials. The **OhioLINK Library Catalog** combines the holdings of 90 libraries at colleges and universities. **SearchOhio** lists holdings from 25 public library systems across Ohio. All of these catalogs can be searched by **Author** or **Title** for a specific author or work, or by **Subject Heading** or **Keyword** for works about a topic, person, place, etc.

**☞ Exercise for searching OBIS for books relevant to your topic**

1. Start at library home page, <http://www.oberlin.edu/library/>
2. In the Catalog tab, change the drop-down search option to Subject; search: SCHOOL VIOLENCE
3. Click on Limit/Sort Search; for YEAR of publication, in the After box type 2009, and click Search

**USING DATABASES TO FIND ARTICLES IN SCHOLARLY JOURNALS**

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Connect from Databases tab on the Library home page search box, or use the Quick Links drop-down menu

**SocINDEX.**

A major index for sociology and related disciplines; indexes articles in 2,600+ journals.

**Academic Search Complete.**

Indexes articles from 13,000+ general and academic periodicals in all disciplines; over 65% of the journals indexed include full text, and most are peer-reviewed.

**☞ Exercise for searching SocINDEX for scholarly journal articles relevant to your topic**

1. From the library home page, choose the Databases tab
2. Change the “by subject” drop-down search option to Sociology and select SocINDEX
3. In box 1 enter search terms for the first concept, each connected by “or”
4. In box 2 enter search terms for the second concept, each connected by “or,” and click Search
5. Refine results by choosing “Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals”
6. Refine results again by choosing “Publication Date” 2005-2015

☞ To determine if the library has a particular journal, Use “360 Link to Full Text” or “Find It!” when available in research databases, or select the **Journal Finder** tab on Library home page or from the Quick Links pull-down menu

**OTHER RECOMMENDED RESEARCH DATABASES**

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Depending on your topic, the databases listed below may also prove useful. If you need assistance using these or other library resources, ask for help at the Research Desk.

*Black Studies Center (African diaspora)*  
*Communication and Mass Media Complete*  
*Criminal Justice Abstracts*  
*Education Research Complete*  
*Gender Studies Database*

*LGBT Life with Full Text (gay/lesbian/bi/trans)*  
*PAIS International (public policy, politics)*  
*PsycINFO (psychology, social psychology)*  
*SPORTDiscus (sports, athletics, fitness)*  
*Urban Studies Abstracts*

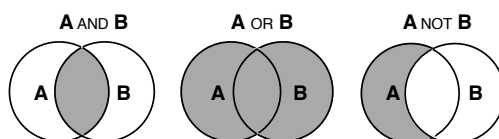
**DATABASE SEARCH TIPS**

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Examples are from SocINDEX using EBSCO’s Ebscohost search engine

Concept	Explanation	Example
Phrase search (quotes required)	search for an exact phrase	“death penalty” “standardized test”
Boolean logic (for keyword searching)	use Boolean operators (AND, OR, NOT) for more precise searching	[see examples below]
AND	search for records that include <i>all</i> of the words (narrows the search)	race <b>and</b> poverty
OR	search for records that include <i>any</i> of the words (broadens the search)	homosexual <b>or</b> gay <b>or</b> lesbian <b>or</b> queer
NOT	<i>exclude</i> records that include the word (narrows the search)	advertising <b>not</b> (television or radio)
Truncation	search for root word with any ending	immigra* [finds immigrant, immigrants, immigration, etc.]

Visual representation of how Boolean searching works (Venn diagrams)



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### SUMMON – default tab on library home page search box

- searches across the spectrum of library content: books, scholarly articles, newspaper articles, magazine articles, data, audio, video, images, government documents, and more
- draws from OBIS, full text databases, and digital repositories from colleges, universities, research centers, and other open-access archives
- direct links to online content (in most cases)

Keep in mind...

- Summon searches many, *but not all*, library resources
- comprehensive or complex searches should be done in subject specific databases
- OBIS and OhioLINK are generally better for finding books

#### Exercise for searching with Summon for additional publications relevant to your topic

1. From the library home page, make sure the Summon tab is selected
2. In the Search box, type: GAY PARENTING
3. Under Refine Your Search, select “Scholarly and Peer-Review”
4. Add another concept by including the word “attitudes”

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### CITING YOUR SOURCES

*Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*. 6<sup>th</sup> ed. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association, 2010. (known as “APA style” of citation)  
Main Reference BF76.7 .P83 2010

*Purdue Online Writing Lab* (aka the OWL). Maintained by Purdue University.  
<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>


See the Research and Citation section for examples of how to cite resources using APA citation style.

*How to Prepare an Annotated Bibliography*. Maintained by the Olin & Uris Libraries, Cornell University.  
<http://guides.library.cornell.edu/annotatedbibliography>

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### HOW TO GET MATERIALS NOT AVAILABLE AT OBERLIN

#### OhioLINK/SearchOhio

- how it works: 115 Ohio library systems lend materials (primarily books) to each other
  -  *does not include delivery of journal articles – see section below on ILL*
- to request: do-it-yourself online searching and requesting
- Barcode is the number on the back of your OCID
- how long it takes: allow 3-4 business days
- loan period: 3 weeks + up to 6 three-week renewals if item has not been requested by someone else

### **Interlibrary Loan (ILL or ILLiad)**

- use for: articles in journals not available at Oberlin, books not available from OhioLINK
- how it works: libraries lend materials to each other; for journal articles they may send scanned pdfs
- to request: select “ILLiad/Interlibrary Loan” from the Quick Links menu on the Library’s home page; set up an account; enter and track ILL requests online
- how long it takes: allow 1-2 weeks; many articles arrive much more quickly
- loan period: journal articles are yours to keep; loan period for books varies

### **HOW TO GET RESEARCH HELP AT THE LIBRARY**

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***Drop-in help at the Research Desk.*** Just stop by and tell us what you need

Monday–Thursday: 10am–noon, 1–5pm, & 7pm–midnight

Friday: 10am–noon & 1–5pm

Weekend: Sat.: 2–4 pm, Sunday: 1–5pm & 7 pm–midnight

***IM.*** Chat online with a member of Oberlin’s reference staff (ObieRef) – hours same as above

***Phone.*** 440-775-5031 – hours same as above

***Email.*** [reference@oberlin.edu](mailto:reference@oberlin.edu) – any time

***Research appointment.*** Sign up online from the library home page