

Novanet Libcasts

BASIC Searching a CSA Database

Screen shots	Script
Title page	<p>This libcast will introduce you to doing a *basic* search in an CSA database. It will show you how to do a basic search, and how to read your results.</p> <p>There is also a libcast for more *advanced* searches in a CSA database found on the libcast page.</p>
Screen with “effects of smoking on teenagers” Show Database Advanced Search screen. Zoom into CSA.	<p>As an example, let’s assume that your sociology professor has asked you to write a paper about the social effects of smoking on teenagers.</p> <p>A leading database for sociology topics is the Sociological Abstracts It covers over 2000 journals in all areas of sociology. This database uses the Cambridge Scientific Abstracts, or CSA, interface.</p>
Dal Libraries Database Search Screen with Sociological Abstracts as search term. Click search. Open Database.	<p>Access this database from Dalhousie’s list of databases.</p> <p>When you open the database it will automatically bring you to the advanced search screen.</p>
Call out Boolean Operators Transition to POWERPOINT	<p>First let’s consider our search terms.</p> <p>Advanced search allows you to combine search words in a variety of ways using these Boolean Operators, And, Or and Not.</p> <p>We’re looking for information about the social effect of smoking on teenagers.</p> <p>Decide what main concepts you can take out of your topic, then list some terms.</p> <p>Teenagers and smoking are two terms we can use to begin our search Place an asterix next to “t-e-e-n” so the database will know to search for any word that begins with teen. Similarly, place an asterix next to “s-m-o-k*” so the database will search for smoke, smokes and smoking. Use the Boolean operator AND so the database will know to search for items with all of the words.</p>
Transition back to Search Screen. Enter teen* and smok* Enter teen* AND smok* (in separate fields) Show date range drop-down list.	<p>In the search fields you can enter more than one word and CSA will search it as a phrase, in the order it appears.</p> <p>In our case it would be better to separate the words, so they are not searched as a phrase. Now CSA will search for these keywords appearing anywhere in the document.</p> <p>You may want to limit the date range to make sure you’re getting the most current results.</p>

<p>Click on Help and Support</p> <p>Click on Search</p>	<p>For more help on how to build your search, click on Help and Support. Help and Support also has tons of other information to help you use CSA.</p> <p>Click on search to begin.</p>
<p>Results</p> <p>Zoom into Tabs</p> <p>Click on Journals</p> <p>Click on Peer Reviewed</p> <p>Click on More</p>	<p>The results page automatically separates the results into resource types. The first set of tabs across the top of the results includes these resource types.</p> <p>The next set of tabs separates the results into publication types, such as journals or books. They are listed in tabs across the top of the results.</p> <p>The peer reviewed tab is important to take note of, professors often ask for “peer reviewed” articles in your bibliography. These articles have been reviewed by experts in the field.</p> <p>The default view is the All Publications tab, but if you want to view other types of publications, simply click on the appropriate tab.</p> <p>Click on more to view even further publication types.</p>
<p>Back to Search Results. Open Sort-By Drop down</p>	<p>You can also sort your results by relevancy or date using this drop-down list.</p>
<p>Mark some records</p> <p>Click Update Marked Records</p> <p>Click Marked List</p> <p>Click “email save export” and highlight fields.</p>	<p>You can mark records that interest you, as you navigate through the results by clicking the box next to the result, and then clicking update marked records. Your marked records are added to your marked list.</p> <p>These can then be emailed, saved, exported to a file, printed or exported to your Refworks account.</p>
<p>Zoom into result</p> <p>Click on article title</p> <p>Back to results. Zoom into descriptors</p>	<p>The results are listed by article title first, and then the author’s names appear, then the journal title, volume, issue and pages.</p> <p>Click on the article title to see a more detailed description. This is called a Full Record.</p> <p>Next to each result there is a list of descriptors. If you click on one of these CSA will start a new search for that word, phrase or author.</p> <p>This is also a great place to look for other words to use as your search terms because these are the words CSA uses as its vocabulary. Notice how adolescent appears instead of Teenager.</p>
<p>Scroll down to bottom of page</p> <p>Enter teen* OR adolescent AND smok* AND effect*</p>	<p>At the bottom of the page there is an additional search box where you can start a new search or refine your search.</p> <p>Let’s use one of the descriptors, and a Boolean search, to refine our results.</p>
<p>Show results.</p>	<p>By using one of CSA’s descriptors we were able to retrieve more results. From</p>

<p>Zoom into holdings information. Callout Holdings</p> <p>Click on Get It At Dal</p> <p>Click Get It At Dal</p>	<p>here you can continue to refine your search.</p> <p>Below each record, the holdings information will be displayed. This is where you can access the full text, if it is available, or you can use the Get It At Dal button to search for the item at Dalhousie.</p> <p>Because CSA searches many many different journals, the article you want might not necessarily be available at Dalhousie. The Get It At Dal button will let you know.</p> <p>For more information on the Get It At Dal service, see the libcast that addresses this topic.</p>
<p>End Title</p>	<p>This has been a brief introduction to doing a basic search in a CSA database. If you need further assistance please visit one of our reference desks, or you can get online help with our live help service. You may also want to view some of our other libcasts on doing library research available on the displayed website.</p>

<p>Publication Details:</p> <p>Length – 5:01 html – 25.4 MB wmv – 3.44 MB m4v – 11.4 MB</p>	<p>Checklist</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> edited the HTML file for title, author and meta tags</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> script updated</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> added author info on produced files as “Dalhousie University Libraries”</p>
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