

Psychology

A guide to finding information

The Psychology Subject Help webpages www.tinyurl.com/lr-psychology have been written to help you during your course. They contain useful information and links to Databases, Ejournal collections, Referencing, Websites and Psychological tests

Once you have chosen your source of information (journal article, book, webpage etc) - you need to critically evaluate it to ensure it is appropriate to use. The Library Guide on *Critically Evaluating Resources* is a useful starting point, and can be downloaded from the Psychology webpages.

Finding books

The Library Catalogue provides details of all the material held in the Library, including their location on the shelves (shelfmarks), and provides links to e-books. Not all books are available electronically.

To find a book or ebook, select the 'Books & e-books' option from the Library homepage www.brookes.ac.uk/library and type in a few details e.g. author's surname and a few words from the title. You should then be given a list of resources which match your search terms.

- If the book is a print book – make a note of the shelfmark e.g. 155.4/INT and look for the book in the Library. Most Psychology resources are on Level 2 of the Library, but you may find relevant material on Level 3 as well.
- If the book is an ebook – click on the title of the book, and then click on the link *View ebook*. You will then be prompted to enter your Brookes student number and password to be able to read the book online.

Here is a list of some useful shelfmarks. More are listed on the Psychology subject help webpage www.tinyurl.com/lr-psychology

Applied Psychology	158
Child Psychology	155.4
Cognitive Psychology	153
Developmental Psychology	155
Educational Psychology	370.15
Emotions	152.4
General Psychology	150
Health Psychology	610.19
Memory	153.12
Neuropsychology	616.804
Perception	153.7
Psychological testing and measurement	150.287 (see also 152.8)
Research methods	150.72
Social Psychology	301.2 (see also 302)

Reading Lists

There is usually a Reading List provided for each module that you study. These are available online and are linked to the library catalogue so you can quickly link through to find a print book, or to the full-text of an e-journal article.

From the Library homepage www.brookes.ac.uk/library select *Reading lists* and type in the module number to find a list. There will also be a link on module's Moodle page to the list.

Finding journals and journal articles

Journal articles are excellent sources of scholarly information and are ideal for assignments. They provide information on research and can include reports of empirical studies, literature reviews, theoretical articles, methodological articles, or case studies. Many journals are peer-reviewed which means they have been critically evaluated by other experts in the field before publication.

The Library subscribes to a wide range of journals in print and electronic format.

Journal titles

Go to the Library webpages www.brookes.ac.uk/library. Select the *Journal titles* option and type in the journal title to locate a specific journal. This will give you online access to the full-text of a journal if available. The majority of the journals we subscribe to are available online. Click on the journal title to view the holdings – whether print or online and the years that are available.

Finding journal articles using Databases

If you need to find research (multiple journal articles) on a specific topic, then you need to use a database. A database is an index to journal articles and other up-to-date information on your assignment or research topic. It provides full bibliographical (citation) details of each article (author, title, journal title, volume, and page numbers). You may also find a direct link to the full text. If this is not provided then you need to search using the information for *Finding journals and journal articles* above.

The two main Psychology database are *PsycINFO* and *Web of Science*.

PsycINFO - contains nearly 4 million records from 1597 to the present, with comprehensive coverage from the 1880s onwards. It is a broad-based Psychology database for the behavioural and social sciences. Its coverage includes abstracts of books, journal articles and dissertations, as well as documents with scores or tests appended. It is a good international database with coverage of nearly 2500 journals from more than 50 countries. It is produced by the American Psychological Association.

Web of Science - contains the Social Sciences Citation Index, the Science Citation Index, the Arts and Humanities Citation Index and two Conference Proceedings Citation Indices. It provides bibliographic information and abstracts from a wide range of key journals for all aspects of Psychology.

Other useful databases:

A further list of databases you may wish to use can be found on the Psychology Subject Help webpages www.tinyurl.com/lr-psychology

More information

If you need any help or further information about Psychology Information resources please contact: Jo Akers your Academic Liaison Librarian at Headington Library, JHB310, John Henry Brookes Building, Oxford Brookes University, Gipsy Lane, Headington, Oxford, OX3 0BP. 01865 485074

jakers@brookes.ac.uk