

DATABASE GUIDE

Widener University School of Law www.law.widener.edu/Law-Library

9/2003

EBSCOhost



EBSCOhost is a powerful online reference system that offers a variety of proprietary full-text databases from leading

information providers. It is available only to current members of the Widener community. The comprehensive databases range from general reference collections to specially designed, subjectspecific databases for public, academic, medical, corporate and school libraries.

You can find EBSCOhost by clicking on "Research Databases" on the left of the Legal Information Center homepage (www.law.widener.edu/Law-Library).

Although EBSCOhost may be accessed directly through the oncampus computers in the Legal Information Center and in the computer lab, it also is accessible from home. For off-campus access, please follow the instructions found at the bottom of the "Research Databases" webpage, so that your computer is properly configured and can be recognized by our proxy server. You will need to provide the barcode number found on the back of your ID each time you log on.

When you click on **EBSCO***host*, the opening page provides you with a list of databases that may be searched, along with a brief description of each (see the list on the back of this guide). You may check any combination of two or more if you are unsure about which one to choose. Many databases have a "Title List" available. Click on that link to get an alphabetical listing of the journals included and the date range of holdings for each title.

MORE ABOUT DATABASES

To learn more about a database click on the "More Information" link found after the database description. Here you will find database-specific information which can be very useful in conducting your search. Topics usually include a description of the database, tips on searching the database, an explanation of default and/or searchable fields, copyright information and even a place to make comments back to the database publisher.

SEARCHING EBSCOHOST DATABASES

You can search EBSCOhost in a variety of ways. The basic search default is to search by keyword. However, you also can

search by *subject*, *publications*, *images* and *references* simply by clicking on the appropriate tab at the top of the page. Searching by *publication* gives you an alphabetical listing of journals included in that database. It then is possible to search only one of those publications, if you so choose. You also can limit or expand your search in a number of different ways with an easy-to-use template. An "*advanced search*" allows you to search in specific fields (e.g., title, author, etc.) and combine your search terms with Boolean operators including AND, OR and NOT. You also can limit searches to particular subsets of the database.

- AND combines search terms so that each search result contains all of the terms. Using "AND" will restrict your search and is useful if you end up with too many results.
- OR combines search terms so that each search result contains at least one of the terms. Using "OR" will expand your search, giving you more results.
- **NOT** excludes terms so that each search result does not contain any of the terms that follow it.

PRINTING FROM EBSCOHOST DATABASES

When you retrieve a list of articles, it will indicate the availability of document retrieval types. If no thing is indicated, there is **no** full-text available, only an abstract. HTML full-text will give you the text of a document without pagination. PDF full-text will print the actual page images which gives you pagination and allows you to select certain pages to print if you do not want the entire document. PDF files often are very large and can cause printers to crash if you send too much at a time. When you send the document to print, it is best to select "**Print Range**" and limit to printing ten pages at a time or whatever your printer will handle.

QUESTIONS?

Click on "Help" in the upper right-hand corner of **EBSCO** host, once you are logged in to get written instructions on how to do a wide range of things.

Contact a reference librarian:

- in person at the reference desk
- **by phone** at 302-477-2114 (Delaware) or 717-541-3934 (Harrisburg)
- **by email** by clicking on the "Ask a Librarian" icon on the Library's hom epage.

EBSCOhost Databases

Academic Search Premier

The world's largest academic multi-disciplinary database, *Academic Search Premier* provides full text for nearly 4,000 scholarly publications, including nearly 3,100 peer-reviewed journals. Coverage spans almost every area of academic study and offers information dating back to 1975. This databases is updated daily.

Business Source Elite

This business database provides full text for more than 1,100 scholarly business journals, including full text for more than 450 peer-reviewed business publications. The rich collection of titles in *Business Source Elite* provides information dating back to 1985. This database is updated daily.

Health Source: Nursing/Academic Edition

This database provides 600 scholarly full text journals focusing on many medical disciplines. It also features abstracts and indexing for more than 850 journals and is updated daily.

Clinical Pharmacology

Clinical Pharmacology provides access to up-to-date, concise and clinically-relevant drug monographs for all U.S. prescription drugs, hard-to-find herbal and nutritional supplements, over-the-counter products and new and investigational drugs.

Newspaper Source

Newspaper Source provides selected full text for over 180 regional U.S. newspapers, international newspapers, newspaper columns and other sources as well as indexing and abstracts for national newspapers. This database is updated daily.

ERIC

ERIC, the Educational Resource Information Center contains more than 2,200 digests along with references for additional information and citations and abstracts from over 980 educational and education-related journals.

Middle Search Plus

Middle Search Plus provides full text for more than 150 popular magazines for middle and junior high school research. All full text articles included in the database are assigned a reading level indicator (Lexiles). Full text information dates as far back as 1990. This database is updated daily.

Funk & Wagnalls New World Encyclopedia

This database provides over 25,000 encyclopedic entries covering a variety of subject areas.

EBSCO Animals

Provides in-depth information on a variety of topics relating to animals. The database consists of indexing, abstracts, and full text records describing the nature and habitat of familiar animals.

Primary Search

Primary Search provides full text for more than 60 popular magazines for elementary school research. All full text articles included in the database are assigned a reading level indicator (Lexiles). Full text information dates back to 1990. This database is updated daily.