

## **Literature Reviews**

A literature review is a summary of what has been published on a research topic, along with analysis of the publications. For a great description of what a literature review is and how to do one, check out <http://www.utoronto.ca/writing/litrev.html>

## **Using The Library Catalog**

Books are an important component for literature reviews—here’s how to track down what we own.

**Go to the Mansfield Library home page** ([www.lib.umt.edu](http://www.lib.umt.edu)). Click on the “Catalog” link on the top left side of the page. This is how you search for books, videos, sound recordings, government documents and theses owned by this library.

**Select the “Advanced Search” tab.** This gives you more flexibility in your search, since you can combine concepts. Type in one or a few words describing your topic/concept into the first box.

**Start off broad, then narrow down your search.** Books tend to be broader discussions of research than articles. Begin by looking for “child care AND gender?” rather than just typing in your topic or thesis. Remember to truncate with the question mark to catch all permutations of a word (genders, gendered)

**Keep an eye out for keywords** that describe your topic in words other than the ones you’re using. If you don’t have many results on your first search, go broader and think of other terms you can use. If you get too many results, think of narrower terms to use.

## **WorldCat**

In order to find books, videos, documents and other materials owned by libraries outside the University of Montana, you will need to use WorldCat. Here’s how:

**Go to the Mansfield Library home page** ([www.lib.umt.edu](http://www.lib.umt.edu)). Click on “Find Articles” and find the subject area for Sociology and Criminology. WorldCat is the last resource listed on the page.

**Search WorldCat like you would the Mansfield Library Catalog (above).** Advanced Search is probably the best place to start, and it’s good to start out broad and narrow down. Keep track of keywords that you have used and that may be useful in future searches.

**Get materials via Interlibrary Loan.** Click on the title of the item you want, then click on “Send Request to ILLiad” or the yellow ILLiad button to request an interlibrary loan of the item. You can also use the “Get Materials We Don’t Own (ILL)” link on the Mansfield Library website.

## Using Electronic Databases to Find Articles

Go to the Mansfield Library home page ([www.lib.umt.edu](http://www.lib.umt.edu)). Click on the Find Articles Link, and then on the Sociology & Criminology topic in the subject grid. To truncate or abbreviate words in these databases, you will need to use the asterisk (\*).

Take a close look at the bibliographies of articles that you find. These can often lead to more articles on the same subject. You can also use Web of Knowledge (listed below) to find works that cite a particular article.

**Academic Search Premier** is one of the largest scholarly, multi-disciplinary full text databases. It contains full text for nearly 4000 scholarly publications, including more than 3100 peer-reviewed publications. This is a great place to start researching or find material for interdisciplinary topics.

**Sociological Abstracts** indexes the international literature of sociology and related disciplines in the social and behavioral sciences. This database primarily displays citations to articles with some access to full-text. The section below describes how to retrieve journal articles from a citation.

**PsychINFO** is a comprehensive index to psychology and psychiatry literature. It's a useful resource for investigating human behavior and identity from the psychological/psychiatric standpoint.

**Web of Knowledge/Web of Science** contains the Social Sciences Citation Index for the past 11 years. This powerful database can help you follow the citation trail of articles and authors of interest and discover more works of interest. We also have the print SSCI back to 1966 on Level 2, call number 300 X S6783.

## Locating Electronic and Print Journals in the Mansfield Library

If you have a citation to an article and need the full text, use the UM-M Journals list to find out how to get the article. Go to the Mansfield Library home page ([www.lib.umt.edu](http://www.lib.umt.edu)) and click on the Journals link. Enter the title of the journal into the search box near the top of the page.

For example, to locate the following article:

Zick, Cathleen D. and Bryant, W. Keith. 1996. "A new look at parents' time spent in childcare: primary and secondary time use." *Social Science Research*, 25(3): p.260-280.

Type "Social Science Research" into the search box on the Journals page, and click the Search button. Your results will look like this:

**Social Science Research** (0049-089X) [Title details from ulrichsweb.com™](http://ulrichsweb.com)  
in [The University of Montana's Print Holdings](#)  
from 1993 to present in [ScienceDirect Elsevier Science Journals](#)

Click on the link to the database to find the electronic full-text version of the article, or click on the link to the "UM Print Holdings" to find out where the print version is in the library.