

Cypress College Library

DATABASE GUIDE:

Academic Search Premier (EBSCOHost)

Academic Search Premier from EBSCOHost is a searchable database of full-text articles and abstracts covering a wide range of subjects. It contains both popular magazines and scholarly journals. Coverage in this database dates back to 1975 or earlier depending on the title of the publication.

Access:

From the Library homepage at <http://www.cypresscollege.edu/~library> click on the **EBSCOHost & CINAHL: Find Articles** link in the center of the screen. The **Choose Databases** screen will appear. Academic Search Premier will be automatically selected with a check mark next to its name. Click the **Continue** button. (To connect from home or off-campus you will need a password. Ask a librarian at the Reference Desk for a list of passwords).

Overview:

Below is a partial image of the Basic Search screen.

The screenshot shows the EBSCO Academic Search Premier interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs for 'Basic Search', 'Advanced Search', 'Visual Search', and 'Choose Databases'. Below these are links for 'New Search', 'Folder', 'Preferences', 'New Features!', and 'Help'. The main search area has a 'Find:' input field, a 'Search' button, and a 'Clear' button. Below the search bar is a 'Refine Search' section with a 'Results' tab. The 'Refine Search' section includes a 'Limit your results:' area with several filters: 'CYPRESS COLLEGE LIBRARY' (checkbox), 'Full Text' (checkbox), 'References Available' (checkbox), and 'Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals' (checkbox). There are also 'Published Date' filters (Month and Year dropdowns) and a 'Publication' input field. A 'Publication Type' dropdown menu is open, showing options: 'All', 'Periodical', 'Newspaper', and 'Book'. On the right side of the search area, there are links for 'Limiters', 'Expanders', and a 'Reset' button. A 'Folder is empty.' message is visible on the right.

The **Publications** link leads to a searchable list of magazines and journals that are indexed in Academic Search Premier. The list gives details about dates of coverage and full-text availability for each title.

In the **Refine Search** box, you can **limit** your results to better target your search. You may wish to try:

Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals – Click here to eliminate citations from popular magazines or newspapers and return only scholarly literature from academic journals.

Full Text – Find the complete text of articles that are related to your search terms. The full-text of articles in this database can be saved, printed, or emailed.

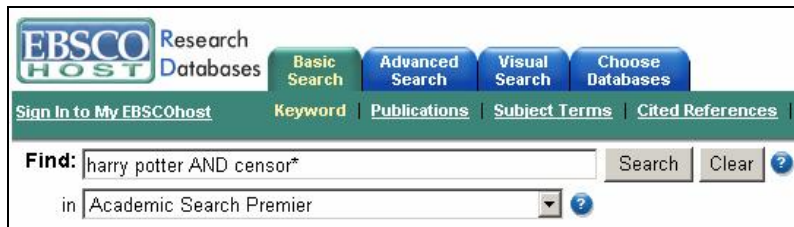
Cypress College Library – This limit will generate a note in the result list if the item is in the Library.

Publication Date – Find articles published within a specific range of dates (e.g., Jan 2000- Jan 2007).

Publication – You can limit your search to a specific magazine, journal, or newspaper (e.g., *Business Week*, *Journal of the American Medical Association*, *The New York Times*).

Basic Search:

Begin searching by entering your terms in the **FIND** box and clicking the **SEARCH** button:



Use the **Subject Terms** link to find search terms related to your topic. Academic Search Premier uses its own *controlled vocabulary* to describe the articles indexed in the database. The Subject Terms thesaurus can help you discover better terms to search and may lead to more relevant results. After searching, some terms will appear in the yellow box to the left of your citations under **Narrow Results by Subject**. These can be used to refine or change your current search.

Use **Boolean** operators to connect words in your search: **AND, OR, NOT.**

Harry Potter AND censor*

(Will retrieve articles that include both concepts)

Harry Potter OR censor*

(Will retrieve articles about either concept)

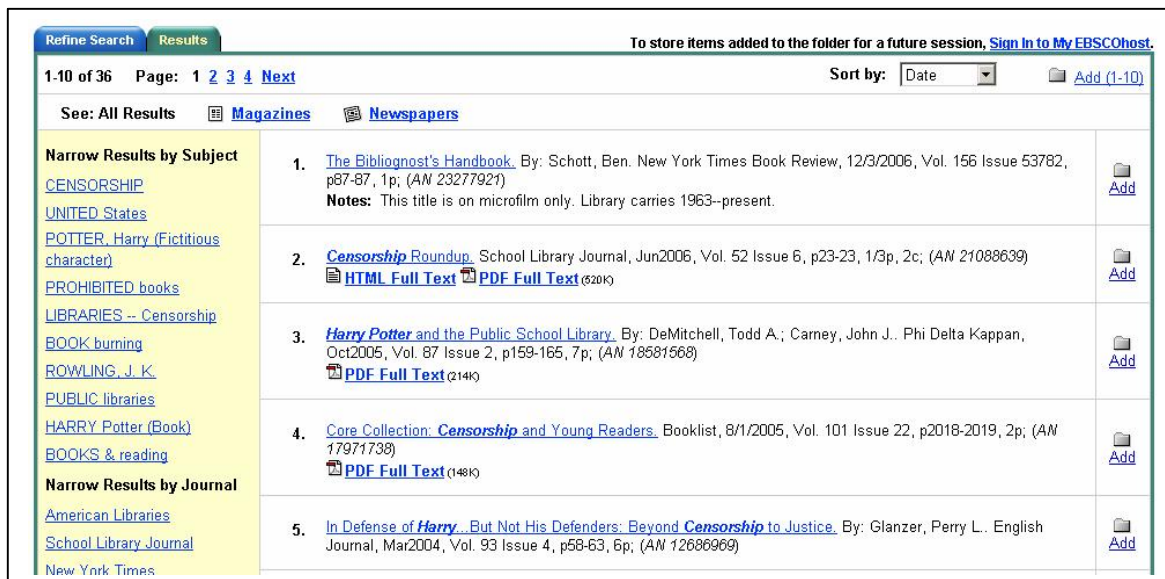
Harry Potter NOT censor*

(Will retrieve articles about Harry Potter but not about censorship)

The asterisk (*) is a **truncation** symbol. The database will look for all variations of the truncated word (e.g., censor, censored, censorship).

Search Results:

Each numbered item is the citation of an article:



Some citations will link to the **full-text** of the article in **HTML** or **PDF** format. ★**HINT:** *If you have a choice between HTML format and PDF format, choose the PDF!* A PDF image is a scan of the article exactly as it looked in print, and will include any pictures, charts, or graphs in the article. You will need *Adobe Acrobat Reader* installed on your PC or Mac to view these files.

If you find a citation and the full-text is unavailable in the database, click on the **Library Holdings** link and search for the **journal or magazine title** (NOT the title of the article) to see if the Library has the publication in print. You can also search for the title of the publication in **CyberCat** by doing a **Journal Title Keyword** search.

★**REMEMBER:** If at any time you need help, just **ask a librarian** at the Reference Desk!

As you are searching, you can select citations and articles to **save** in your **Folder**. These records will stay in your folder until the end of your session. If you **“Sign in to My EBSCOHost”** you can save your research for **future** sessions and access it over and over again! Just follow the instructions under **“I’m a New User”** to make an account.