In-Class Exercise: Searching PsycINFO (Hands On)

For this exercise, you will split into groups of 2-3.

Print your group member’s names in the spaces below:

____________________________________________
____________________________________________
____________________________________________

Overview: Lucky you! Your group has been assigned to write a group paper on the topic of campus rape. You are required to use peer-reviewed, empirical articles [that use the scientific method] as sources for your paper.

Task: Using PsycINFO, find peer-reviewed, empirical journal articles published since 2000 that your group thinks will be helpful for your paper.

You will do 2 different searches in PsycINFO – just two searches.

You must use only one computer AND work together!

Before we begin, go to PsycINFO:

- If you have not already, go to the PSYC 2300 (Tennial) Research Guide: http://researchguides.ualr.edu/psyc2300tennial
  - In the Research Guide, scroll over Thursday, February 4.
  - From the drop-down menu, choose Searching for Articles: PsycINFO.
  - After the page loads, select the link for PsycINFO.

All groups will do one search at a time.

John (the Librarian) will pass out a Research Worksheet at the start of each search and then be a taskmaster and give groups time to search and complete the worksheet.
Research Worksheet
Search #1

a. Write your search terms [EXACTLY what you typed in PsycINFO to search]:

_____________________________________________________________________________________

b. How many search results did you get? (HINT: Toward the top of the search results page) ________
   - IF YOU HAVE ONE OR MORE SEARCH RESULTS: Continue to question c.
   - IF YOU GET “No results were found” [TOWARD THE TOP OF THE PAGE, IN RED]: Skip to question d on the last page.

c. Review your results and pick several articles [no more than 3] that your group thinks might be useful.

For EACH article your group thinks is useful, you will need to e-mail the article information to one member in your group, following these instructions:

(i) Select (click) on the title link for the article.

(ii) You will be taken to a page with the identifying information about the article, such as the article title, author, etc. At this page, choose the E-mail link in the right-hand column. (You may have to scroll over to the right of the page to view the E-mail link.)
(iii) An E-mail page will load.

It is important that you do the following BEFORE you e-mail:

- In the left-hand column:
  - In E-mail to: box, enter one of your group member’s UALR e-mail address.
  - In the Subject box, enter a description that you make up, such as PSYC 2300 – Search Exercise – Article 1

- In the right-hand column:
  - Select (choose) Standard Field Format and change the drop down to Detailed Citation & Abstract.
  - DO NOT SELECT (CLICK) CITATION FORMAT OR CHANGE MLA (Modern Language Assoc.)

- Once you have made all these selections, double-check to make sure they’re correct, especially the e-mail address.

- On a separate piece of scratch paper, write down the entire title of the article.

- After you have written down the entire article of the article, select Send.

(iv) Do not worry about checking your e-mail now. You will do that later.

(v) Repeat this process for each article your group chooses. Remember, pick no more than 3.

d. If applicable: If you got a message that “No results were found,” why do you think so and what will you do differently for Search #2?
a. Write your search terms [EXACTLY what you typed in PsycINFO to search]:

____________________________________________________________________________________

b. How many search results did you get? (HINT: Toward the top of the search results page) _________
   - IF YOU HAVE ONE OR MORE SEARCH RESULTS: Continue to question c.
   - IF YOU GET “No results were found” [TOWARD THE TOP OF THE PAGE, IN RED]: Skip to question d. on the last page.

c. Review your results and pick several articles [no more than 3] that your group thinks might be useful.

For EACH article your group thinks is useful, you will need to e-mail the article information to one member in your group, following these instructions:

(i) Select (click) on the title link for the article.

(ii) You will be taken to a page with the identifying information about the article, such as the article title, author, etc. At this page, choose the E-mail link in the right-hand column. (You may have to scroll over to the right of the page to view the E-mail link.)
An E-mail page will load.

- In the left-hand column:
  - In E-mail to: box, enter the same group member’s UALR e-mail address.
  - In the Subject box, enter a description that you make up, such as PSYC 2300 – Search Exercise – Article 1

- In the right-hand column:
  - Select (choose) Standard Field Format and change the drop down to Detailed Citation & Abstract.
  - DO NOT SELECT (CLICK) CITATION FORMAT OR CHANGE MLA (Modern Language Assoc.)

- Once you have made all these selections, double-check to make sure they’re correct, especially the e-mail address.

- On a separate piece of scratch paper, write down the entire title of the article.

- After you have written down the entire article of the article, select Send.

Do not worry about checking your e-mail now. You will do that later.

Repeat this process for each article your group chooses. Remember, pick no more than 3.

d. Write a short reflection on the back of this page (No more than 2-3 sentences for each question):

- Which search worked better (Search #1 or Search #2)? Why does your group think so?
- How did your group choose articles?
- If you got no search results for Search #2, what might you do differently in the future?
- What did you learn from this exercise?
- Write any questions you have after completing this exercise.
After Searching: Checking E-Mail

Now that your group has done your 2 searches and e-mailed a few articles for the exercise, you will work briefly with the e-mailed article information.

1. The group member that e-mails were sent to should log into their UALR e-mail.

2. In the Inbox, you should find one e-mail for each article your group picked.

3. Open one e-mail and make sure it looks like the one below. There should be lots of information, including the title, the authors, and abstract [most, but not all, articles have abstracts]. Be sure to log out of UALR e-mail after the class discussion.

   ![Image of an article record]

   4. HELPFUL HINTS FOR HOMEWORK AND THE REST OF THE SEMESTER:
      a. If you did not receive an e-mail for one of the articles you chose, check your Spam filter. If that does not work, find the article again in PsycINFO by searching the title you wrote down on the scratch piece of paper. Once you find it, e-mail it again.
      b. For your homework assignment, you will be asked to print out the e-mail for each article you choose.