



Google Scholar

<http://scholar.google.com>

According to its webpage, “Google Scholar provides a way to broadly search for scholarly literature. From one place, you can search across many disciplines and sources: peer-reviewed papers, theses, books, abstracts and articles, from academic publishers, professional societies, preprint repositories, universities and other scholarly organizations.” Google Scholar **does not** index popular or trade magazines.

Basic Searching

Type your keywords into the search box, and press **Enter**, or click on the **Search** button. Enter **single words** or **phrases**, but **enclose phrases in quotation marks**. You do not need to include the word **and** between keywords, because Google Scholar automatically searches for all of your search terms. For example, the search below will find the same results as the search **adolescents and “drug abuse”**

Google Scholar BETA

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Author Searching

Enter authors' names using **initials**, and surround the name in **quotation marks**. Using only the **first initial** results in a more comprehensive search, and will provide results for the author's name that include both first and middle initials. A more limited search is created when you use both first and middle initials in the search -- only items where both initials appear with the author's last name are retrieved. Spelling out the author's first name (“andrew coats”) results in an even more limited search, as authors are most frequently cited using their initials rather than full first names.

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Using the Advanced Scholar Search

Use the **Advanced** search option to add restrictions to your search, such as a journal title or date of publication. To bring up the **Advanced** search screen, click on the **Advanced Scholar Search** link to the right of the Google Scholar search box.

The screenshot shows the Google Scholar Advanced Search page. The search criteria are:

- Find articles with all of the words
- with the exact phrase
- with at least one of the words
- without the words
- where my words occur

 The search term is "a coats". The search is limited to 10 results. The search criteria are:

- Author: Return articles written by "a coats" (e.g., "PJ Hayes" or McCarthy)
- Publication: Return articles published in lancet (e.g., J Biol Chem or Nature)
- Date: Return articles published between 1990 and 1990 (e.g., 1996)
- Subject Areas: Return articles in all subject areas.

 Callouts point to the search criteria for Author's name, Title of journal, and Year of publication.

Using the Results Screen

Search results are ranked. Ranking factors include frequency of appearance of the search term in the text, author, perceived value of the publication, number of times cited by others, etc. The results screen has a number of special features that help you expand your research. The **Cited by** link allows you to identify other publications which have cited an article of interest to you. The **Related Articles** link leads you to publications which are similar to the article in which you are interested. Finally, links to **authors who also publish on your topic** are provided on the upper left of the screen.

The screenshot shows the Google Scholar results screen for the search term "a coats". The results are sorted by "Recent articles". The first result is "Value of natriuretic peptides in assessment of patients with possible new heart failure in primary ... - WSU Full Text Finder - all 3 versions". The callouts point to various features:

- Sort your results to show the newest research
- Authors doing similar work (A Coats, P Poole-Wilson, M Cowie, S Anker, D Wood)
- Article Title—click here to view the abstract, and, occasionally, the full article
- More search options—search for specific dates, journal titles, etc.
- Set preferences, such as the ability to import citations into EndNote
- See other articles that have cited this article
- Find other articles on this topic
- Search Google for more information about this article
- Click here to see if the full text of this article is available through the WSU Library