

PSYC 320 – Advanced topics in Child Development
Lecture Notes – CF's
Spring 2010

Research Process Review

Magazines vs. Journals Review

Define “Scholarly Article”

Show record from PsycInfo

Discuss descriptors

Show search interface for PsycInfo but DON'T EXPLAIN YET

HANDS-ON: Have them search for Adolescents and Violence. Tell them this verbally - don't write it down. Give them 3 minutes. Collect # of results. Solicit reason for differences in #'s. Show and discuss the interface (especially embedded *or*'s)

MAKE THEM CLOSE LAPTOPS FOR DEMO (searches results from 2/12/2010)

- Keyword search for *eating disorders* and *adolescents* – 1412 results
- Look at descriptors, see *anorexia nervosa*, *bulimia*, *eating disorders*
- Descriptor search for (*anorexia nervosa* or *bulimia*, or *eating disorders*) and keyword *adolescents* – 1638 results
- Show limiters on search page.
- Search the three descriptors but no keyword, limit to journal articles in English with age adolescents – 3279 results (yowza!)
- Discuss why adolescents as a keyword vs. adolescents as a limiter give such different results.
- Discuss the general problem of assumptions about how a search tool works
- Discuss other useful limiters (especially language, population, and methodology)

Demo the thesaurus (under “search tools” subtab for Thesaurus)

Follow through an Article Linker and explain screens

Interlibrary loan

Periodical Title Search (following a citation trail)

APA citation style

Remind them that these are general concepts that work with ERIC, academic search complete...

Online help & consultations

Turn them loose