DATABASE USAGE

JOURNAL ARTICLES
Journal articles are stored in databases. Databases are like electronic filing cabinets.

MAGAZINES
Glossy
Sold in stores
Cost a few dollars
Written by journalists (experts in writing)

JOURNALS
Not glossy
Not sold in stores
Cost $50 per article or more
Written by experts in the field of study
Available in Iowa Lakes Databases

WHERE DO I BEGIN?
Iowa Lakes Community College Libraries provide two paths to access databases.
First, go to: http://www.iowalakes.edu/student-services/library/

DATABASES AND EBOOKS
- Links to the short list of databases
- Not subject specific
- List combines databases into groups by vendor
- Can search several databases at once

SUBJECT GUIDES
- Links to subject specific guides
- Provides pertinent library and online resources for its subject
- Each guide links to subject specific databases
- Search individual databases about your topic

Stop in and ask!
Estherville Campus • 300 South 18th St. • (712) 362-7985
Emmetsburg Campus • 3200 College Dr. • (712) 852-5317

Need help? Email us!
smotter@iowalakes.edu or ilcceblibrary@iowalakes.edu
DATABASE USAGE

KEYWORD SEARCH

Find the **correct search term** here! Also great for narrowing or broadening your focus when searching.

Change to another **database** by this vendor or search multiple databases at once!

**New Search**  **Publications**  **Subject Terms**  **Images**  **More**

**Searching: Academic Search Elite**  **Choose Databases**

**Select a Field (optional)**

**Search**  **Clear**  ?

**EBSCOhost**

**Basic Search**  **Advanced Search**

**BOOLEAN SEARCH:**

Use **And**, **Or** or **Not** to narrow your search.

**Databases may look slightly different, but they usually provide the features above. The search limiters are usually located on either the right or left of the screen once you complete a search.**

**BEST PRACTICES:**

- Choose **full-text** if you need it immediately
- Limit to previous 5 years
- Narrow to format desired (journal article etc.)
- Choose **scholarly/peer-reviewed** for articles written by experts
- Narrow by **subject** (or other limiters)
- Click “X” to remove unwanted limits and change search
- Try many terms and use **subject term tools** to narrow focus