

Library Website: <http://library.clackamas.edu>

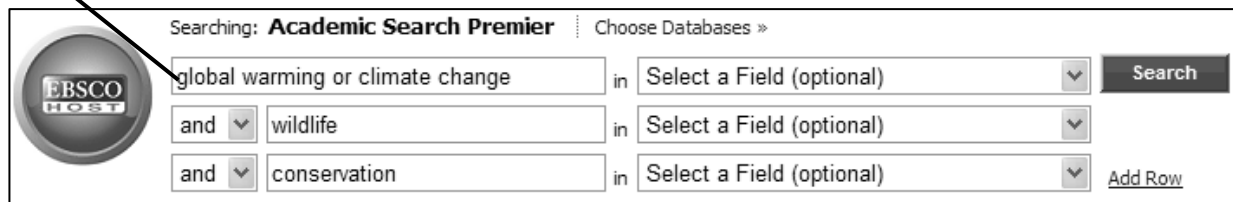
Library Reference: 503-657-6958 ext. 2290

These indexes provide information about articles from thousands of **magazines, journals, and newspapers**. They give the **full text** for many of these articles, and show whether CCC Library owns the publications.  
 (Need an article not available full text or in the Library? Ask about **Interlibrary Loan!**)

**ACCESS:** Library Website >> Find Journal & Magazine Articles >> EBSCO (or use the pull-down menu)  
 When accessing EBSCO products from off-campus, you will be asked for your name and CCC ID number. EBSCO will launch *Academic Search Premier* by default (it's a good choice for most college-level work).  
 To use a different index, click **Choose Databases** to select from a list.  
 NOTE: Selecting more than one index disables the Subject Terms button, which can be a useful feature.

### STARTING YOUR SEARCH:

**TIP:** put different ideas on separate lines for flexibility as you adjust your search.



The screenshot shows the EBSCO search interface. At the top, it says "Searching: Academic Search Premier" and "Choose Databases »". Below this is a search bar with three rows of input fields. The first row contains "global warming or climate change" in the search box, "in" in a small box, and "Select a Field (optional)" in a dropdown menu. The second row contains "and" in a dropdown menu, "wildlife" in the search box, "in" in a small box, and "Select a Field (optional)" in a dropdown menu. The third row contains "and" in a dropdown menu, "conservation" in the search box, "in" in a small box, and "Select a Field (optional)" in a dropdown menu. To the right of the search bar is a "Search" button. Below the search bar is an "Add Row" button. An arrow points from the text above to the first search box.

EBSCO's search engine will look for articles with your terms in the **titles, abstracts, and/or subject terms**.  
 (You can tell it exactly where to look by opening the pull-down menu under "Select a Field.")

EBSCO uses a **phrase search** by default; *street art politics* gets no results – use *street art and politics*

gun control	finds items with the exact phrase "gun control"
assisted suicide <b>and</b> oregon	finds items with <b>both</b> the phrase "assisted suicide" and "oregon"
cougar <b>or</b> puma <b>or</b> mountain lion	finds items with <b>any</b> of these terms
gypsy <b>not</b> moths	finds items with "gypsy" then discards any with "moths"
pollut*	finds items with pollute, polluted, polluter(s), pollution...
visuali?ation	finds items with "visualisation" or "visualization" (? replaces <b>one</b> letter)
human <b>n3</b> evolution	finds items with "human" <b>near</b> (within 3 words of) "evolution"

### NARROWING a Search - Too many articles? Irrelevant articles?

1. Add terms for more precision: *domestic violence and alcohol*      *genetic engineering and ethic\**
2. Try searching your term(s) in the **Subject Terms** field rather than the default fields.  
 (If this does not work, remember that EBSCO may be using a different term; experiment with vocabulary!)

### BROADENING A Search - Too few articles?

1. Include synonyms      (*art or painting*) and (*native americans or indians*)  
 Try truncation      *computer\* and medic\**
2. Try a broader subject      instead of *orcas and oil spills*, try *marine mammals and pollution*
3. Search your term in **all text** (a "desperation move," but can help identify other terms that may work).

# GETTING THE BEST ARTICLES FROM EBSCO

## 1. Watch For & Use EBSCO's Vocabulary!

EBSCO displays the most common actual **subject headings** of articles that matched your search. If it uses different terms than you did, try those.

Find:   
 and

The above search gets **some** results, but you might miss many of the best articles unless you include “indians of north america” in your search. (Notice the “More” tab!)

NOTE: clicking a term here will “AND” it into your search (i.e., it will retrieve only articles with *both* terms). Usually, you will get better results by retyping the suggested term into the search box.

You can also **browse** and select subject terms to search using the **Subject Terms** tab (in some indexes it is called the **Thesaurus**).

## 2. Use limits to sift the best articles from your results:

If you wish, select only items that are **readily available**, either full-text in the database, or in a print copy at the Library.

Use this slider to set a **date range**.  
 Once you have set a date range, switch the **sort** from Date (default) to **Relevance** to bring the most promising items to the top of the list.

Under **Search Options** you can specify **number of pages**; this helps you eliminate short “newsy bits” and view only substantial items.

Number Of Pages

You can choose to view only **peer-reviewed journal** articles, or only **magazine** articles.