

Finding Books

Often the most efficient way to find books on a very specific topic in psychology is to search the [UT Library catalog](#) using a fairly unique keyword, i.e. “mania.” For broader topics a search by Library of Congress subject heading will work well if there is a subject heading that roughly corresponds to the topic and if there are books wholly or in large part devoted to that subject. More help is available from the [UT Library Guide](#). Some examples of subject headings are:

Psychology, Comparative
Psychology, Pathological
Social Psychology

Cognition
Schizophrenia
Emotions

Psychological Tests
Psychotherapy
Personality

Finding Articles

[PsycINFO](#)

An electronic version of *Psychological Abstracts*, this is the definitive database for psychology. Produced by the American Psychological Association, this database currently indexes over 1,500 periodicals in several languages. To be indexed a journal must be peer reviewed and meet other criteria. The database also covers some English language books, book chapters, and dissertations. It is updated monthly. See the [Research Databases](#) guide for help in searching this database. [Historical PsycINFO](#) is a separate database file covering articles published between 1887 and 1966. Although this index was also produced under the auspices of the American Psychological Association, its coverage and criteria for inclusion evolved with the discipline.

[Psychology and Behavioral Sciences Collection](#)

This database indexes, abstracts, and provides some full text covering topics such as emotional and behavioral characteristics, psychiatry and psychology, mental processes, anthropology, and observational and experimental methods.

[ERIC](#) is the standard database for the literature of education. It can be useful for finding literature on such topics as educational psychology, school counseling, and the application of psychology in classroom discipline. See the [Guide to OhioLINK Research Databases](#) and the [Pathfinder for Education](#) for details.

[Medline](#) is the authoritative database for medicine and related fields. When psychological topics cross over into medicine, neurology, or pharmacology this may be a useful place to search for information. Again, see the [Guide to OhioLINK Research Databases](#) for details.

[Biological Abstracts](#) is the comprehensive database for biology. It can be useful for psychological topics that involve vertebrate physiology, etiology, evolution, genetics, or similar subdisciplines. See [Guide to OhioLINK Research Databases](#) and the [Biology Pathfinder](#) for more details.

Background Information

[Encyclopedia of Psychology \(“APA”\)](#)

Reference BF 31 .E52 2000. 8 vols.

This is the work of the American Psychological Association and therefore considered most authoritative.

[Encyclopedia of Human Development](#)

Reference HM626 .E53 2006. 4 vols.

600 entries provide cross-disciplinary coverage of all aspects of human development. Presented are classic studies and theories along with brief biographies of significant researchers and theorists.

[Encyclopedia of Mental Health](#)

Reference RA 790 .E53 1998. 3 vols.

These volumes represent a summary of the many issues that affect mental health, and illustrate how mental health influences the individual and society at large.

Definitions

[APA Dictionary of Psychology](#)

Reference BF31.A63 2007

Covers a wide range of subjects within psychology and related disciplines. Contains phrases and terms as they apply to specific groups.

[A Dictionary of Psychology \(Colman\)](#)

Reference BF31 .C64 2003

Covers all areas of psychology and related disciplines. Includes statistics, as well as word origins, derivations and definitions. Also lists over 800 commonly used abbreviations and symbols, as well as a list of phobias.

[Oxford Companion to the Mind \(2004 edition\)](#)

[Online Reference Source](#)

Considered a classic guide to the human mind. Includes discussions on such topics as language, memory, and artificial intelligence.

[Thesaurus of Psychological Index Terms](#)

Reference Z695.1.P7 T48 2007

Contains the controlled vocabulary used by the APA; can be used to find consistent terms for searching and retrieving information, and also for definitions. This is the vocabulary used by the thesaurus search function in [PsycINFO](#).

Standard Reference Sources

[Diagnostic & Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders IV \(DSM four-TR\)](#)

Reference RC 455.2 .C4D54 2000

The most basic diagnostic and clinical tool.

[Handbook of Child Psychology](#)

Reference BF 721.H242 2006

These four volumes form the standard on early development.

[Encyclopedia of Cognitive Science](#)

Reference BF311. E53 2003

Contains articles covering information, information processing, representation, computation, and spans psychology, philosophy, linguistics, computer science, neuroscience, and other topics within the cognitive sciences.

[Measures for Clinical Practice: A Sourcebook](#)

Reference BF 176.C66 2000.

A good inventory of the various psychological instruments used in clinical work and research.

[Mental Measurements Yearbook](#)

[OhioLINK Research Database](#)

This is the online version of Buross Mental Measurements, covering all the yearbooks in one place beginning with the 9th edition. Information and reviews are provided for English-language standardized tests covering educational skills, personality, vocational aptitude, psychology, and related areas. Does not include actual tests. **Access available to University of Toledo campus.**

Internet Resources

American Psychological Association

<http://www.apa.org/>

Provides lists of journals and topics in psychology, along with current news, APA style and career information.

American Psychiatric Association

<http://www.psych.org/>

Contains a list of journals, an overview of research, and links to resources.

National Institute of Mental Health

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/>

Supplies statistics, topics, and lists of resources and publications.