Finding Magazine & Newspaper Articles in a Library Database
Note

• If you’ve already reviewed the information in the “Finding Scholarly Articles in a Library Database” resource, you’ll notice some similarities here, especially at the beginning.

• There are some key differences between finding scholarly articles and finding newspaper and magazine articles. So, though this will start out the same, there are some important differences later on.
Start by navigating to the libraries’ homepage: library.albany.edu
Click the Databases tab on the libraries’ homepage.
Search for a database or choose from the list of popular databases under the search box.

In this example, we will be searching Academic Search Complete.
Academic Search Complete is a general database. The articles in this database cover many different topics. No matter your topic, you should be able to find something about your topic. This makes the database a good place to start your research.
If you are new to database searching, it looks like there is a lot going on here, including a large number of search options.
For now, the only part of the page you need to pay attention to is the search box at the top.
Choose a few keywords to describe your topic and enter them into the search box.

Note: It is recommended that you start out with general terms. The more specific your terms, the fewer search results you will get. For more information on how to strategize your search and choose keywords, check the Searching for Information page for helpful guides.
Search results page

1. **Social Media Privacy: A Rallying Cry to Librarians.**
   As information technology advances at a rapid pace, librarians must take action to continue their traditional roles as champions of privacy and intellectual freedom into the digital age. *Social media...*
   Subjects: **SOCIAL media; PRIVACY, INTELLECTUAL freedom; ELECTRONIC Information resources – Access control; LIBRARY users; LIBRARIANS**

2. **SOCIAL MEDIA AND THE JOB MARKET: HOW TO RECONCILE APPLICANT PRIVACY WITH EMPLOYER NEEDS.**
   In the modern technological age, social media allows us to communicate vast amounts of personal information to countless people instantaneously. This information is valuable to more than just our...*
   Subjects: **SOCIAL media in business; PERSONAL information management; RIGHT of privacy; SOCIAL media – Law & Legislation; CONFLICT management; CONSTITUTIONAL amendments**

Associated Press Video (36) View All
There are 837 results for this search
Notice that the items in the search results are from a variety of different types of publications, including magazines and newspapers.
You can choose a single source type or mix and match, depending on your research needs.
In this example, we’ll limit the search results to articles from magazines.
Selecting this option updates the results page.
Note the change in the number of search results.
The updated results now only show those articles from magazines.

Note: Magazines are generally not considered scholarly in nature but may still be appropriate for research, depending on what is being researched.
Click the title of any article you would like to see more information about.
Use the information on this page to further confirm that the article is from a non-scholarly source.
Take note of the article’s title.

Articles from magazines tend to be short and attention-getting to attract a general audience of readers.
Check for author affiliations.

Magazines and newspaper articles are written by journalists who work for the publication. There should be no additional affiliations listed for the author.
Look for clues in the “Source” line.
The length of the article will be relatively short, sometimes a fraction of a page. Look for recent publication dates. Magazine and newspaper articles tend to be “of the moment” and are often superseded by new articles with updated information, published at a later date.
The article’s abstract is a short summary of the article. Use this information to decide whether to read the article in full. The abstract for a magazine or newspaper article will often indicate that the article is a discussion, a report, or an analysis of a topic rather than a research study.
If you decide to read the whole article, look for a Full Text link on the left side of the screen.
The example shows both a PDF Full Text link and an HTML Full Text link. Both will give you the full text of the article, but HTML Full Text does not preserve the formatting of the original article the way PDF does. This will be a consideration when citing page numbers for the article.
Not seeing a “Full Text” link for the article you’re interested in?

• You can still access the full text of the article—it may just take a few extra steps.

• Contact a librarian at the reference desk for help or use this tutorial on accessing full text articles for more information.
You can print the article, save a copy to your computer, or e-mail it to yourself using the options on the right.
You can also use this tool to help with citation.
The database provides example citations in a variety of common citation styles.
Check these example citations for errors in formatting before adding them to your paper or project.
This slideshow has demonstrated how to locate non-scholarly articles in Academic Search Complete.

• Other databases you might use will almost always have similar features. They may be located in different places on the screen.

• Need help locating an article in a database? Help is available 24/7.