


Cambridge Scientific Abstracts (CSA)

What is CSA?

CSA's database service is a collection of databases that index and abstract scientific literature from the social and biological sciences. The following databases are available through CSA:

<u>Social Sciences</u>	<u>Biological and Medical Sciences</u>
<i>Econlit</i>	<i>AGRICOLA</i>
<i>ERIC</i>	<i>Biological Sciences</i>
<i>NCJRS Abstracts Database</i>	<i>Biology Digest</i>
<i>Physical Education Index</i>	<i>Conference Papers Index</i>
<i>Social Services Abstracts</i>	<i>Medline</i>
<i>Sociological Abstracts</i>	<i>Physical Education Index</i>
SAGE Full-text: Communication, Criminology, Education, Political Science, Psychology and Sociology	<i>Plant Science</i>
	<i>TOXLINE</i>

Accessing CSA

On the library's homepage <http://lib.sdstate.edu> click **ARTICLES & DATABASES**. Scroll down the alphabetical index and choose either **CSA -SOCIAL SCIENCES** or **CSA - BIOLOGICAL AND MEDICAL**. The **now selected** field on the search screen indicates which databases are currently selected. To change the selected database(s) click **specific databases**. For more information on an individual database click  .

Searching CSA

1. Enter search term(s). Use **AND, OR, or NOT** to combine search terms (i.e. adolescent OR child, Adlerian psychology AND applications, etc.). Use the * to search for word plurals or variations of word roots (i.e. type "develop*" to search for "develop", "development", "developmental", etc.). **Advanced Search offers** three search drop list boxes that allow the searcher to specify the fields in which words should appear and numerous fields are available for searching including author, title, journal name, descriptors, population, etc.
2. Click **search**.
3. Results are sorted by most recent article first. Click **Journals, Peer-Reviewed Journals, Conferences, Books**, etc. to view only those items. Click the + next to **multiple databases** to view the number of items retrieved from each database searched. **Mark** records for printing, saving, or e-mailing by checking the box next to the desired citation.
4. Click the article title or **view record** to view complete record.
5. Full-text links will appear when text is available as a direct link from the database. To determine the library's holdings (print and electronic) for items not linked via full-text, return to the main library web page and search for the periodical title using the **Magazines and Journals List**.
6. To **modify search** click **Edit Search**, scroll to bottom of results list and modify search using the form available, or click **Quick Search tab**.

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7. Click **Save, Print, E-mail** to retrieve marked or individual text/citations.
8. **Create an instant bibliography** in the format of your choice using the **QuikBib** function. Select a document format and bibliographic style, and click **create**. E-mail, save, or print the bibliography. Information may also be exported to **RefWorks** - individuals must subscribe to RefWorks for this feature.

Other Features

Search Tools

1. **Combine Searches** – Use this feature to combine previous searches into one string, or to combine previous searches with new search terms.
2. **Alerts** – Create a free personal profile in CSA and use saved 'Alerts' to automatically search selected databases for new content every week. After creating a personal account, the user will receive an email message that contains up to 250 new records from each database that has new matching content.
3. **Search History** – Use this feature to view previous searches, save a search as an alert, or to run a previously saved search.
4. **Command Search** – Command Search enables the user to enter a complete search strategy in the command-line search box, using Boolean Operators, Field Codes, Wildcard Symbols, and Proximity Search. For more information, click **Help and Support**.
5. **Thesaurus** - Use the Thesaurus to browse for terms via a hierarchical, alphabetical, or rotated index display. These display formats allow navigation through the thesaurus alphabetically or through the hierarchical relationships between terms. After finding appropriate terms, submit a search for those terms in the database Descriptors field.
6. **Indexes** - AN index is an alphabetical listing of terms used in a specific field of a database. Browse this list to see, for example, various spellings of author names, what types of publications are covered by a particular database, or the names of journals indexed in a certain database. After finding appropriate terms, submit a search for those terms. Use the drop-down box to specify which database index to browse.

For More Information

 Contact a reference librarian at **Hilton M. Briggs Library** by telephone, 605-688-5570 or toll-free at: 1-800-786-2038, or via e-mail: blref@sdstate.edu .