Searching the Library Databases: An Introduction

At the conclusion of this module, you will be able to:

- locate library databases on the Belk Library website home page.
- perform a basic search in a library database.
- recognize features of library databases.

Library databases search for articles from within:

- scholarly journals
- popular magazines
- newspapers
- industry reports
- and other types of publications
This is the ASU Belk Library website homepage. One way to find articles is to use the Quick Search box. Quick Search for articles allows you to search the following databases:
Another way to find articles is to find a library database that covers your subject area. From the Belk Library home page, click on **Databases and E-Research Tools**. You may also click on **See all Databases**.

To see the complete list of library databases, click on **Databases and E-Research Tools**.
The library databases are arranged by title and by subject. General databases are a good place to begin searching for articles on any topic.

**Academic Search Complete** is a good choice for research topics. It is a multi-disciplinary database, and it contains many full-text articles.
Below is the basic search screen for Academic Search Complete. This sample search is for articles that discuss childhood obesity in the United States. The keywords are ‘children’ AND ‘obesity’ AND ‘United States.’

To refine the search, there are multiple limit options, such as full-text, scholarly peer reviewed journals, publication date, and publication type.
Browse the list of results.

Mouse over the magnifying glass to see a summary of the article.
Click on these links to view the full-text.

This title looks relevant. Click on the **article title** to see the complete article record below.

In addition to the author, journal title, and publication date, you will see a list of subject terms. To find additional materials on this specific topic, click on the subject term ‘obesity in children.’

You now have the option to add to folder, print, email, or save this article.
Summary

In this module you have learned how to:

- locate library databases on the Belk Library web site home page
- perform a basic search in a library database
- recognize features of a library database