Hello,

In this video we will walk through searching in Academic Search Premier. This database is useful for all disciplines, and a good place to start your research.

From the Libraries’ Main Page, change the dropdown to “Academic Databases.” This will provide a list of our most popular resources, select “Academic Search Premier”

If off campus, you will be asked to log in using your NDSU credentials- this is what you use to access computers on campus.

Unlike Google, databases won’t recognize a sentence or question- you will use specific terms to generate results. These are determined by the database, and applied uniformly to all content. Similarly, these search tips can be applied across many of NDSU’s databases.

Using a base word, like “bison,” will populate further options. I’m going to use “bison AND North Dakota” to specify I want results about both. You can also expand using “bison OR buffalo,” or narrow with “bison NOT buffalo”

Once you have your results, you can refine them to meet your research needs. To the left side of the screen are Useful options like full text, peer-review, and date ranges. Further down the page, you may select specific source types.

“Search @ NDSU” links mean we may have access to that article, just in another database. Clicking the link will take you to the record on the Library's website, and where to access it, however, by selecting full text, I know resources will be available in Academic Search Premier. Peer-review means it will count as an academic or scholarly source. To ensure relevancy, I am also going to limit the date range.

This significantly reduced the number of results to look through. Subject terms will help you decide which results warrant a closer look. You can access the article directly using the full text icons, or click the title for more information.

Here, you are able to read the article abstract, and look more closely at other tools that can aid your research, like authors, journal titles, and a full list of subject terms. Clicking any of these will create a new search.

Once you have decided to use an article, you will eventually need to cite it in your research. To the right side of the screen are helpful tools. Click “cite” for autogenerated citations- but make sure to double-check for accuracy.

It is also essential to grab the correct link to return to this article. At the bottom of the tools list is the “permalink” option. Clicking this generates a direct link to the item for your records.

Thank you for watching this tutorial, if you have any questions or want to know more about other databases, feel free to reach out using NDSU Libraries chat reference in the bottom right corner, or contact a librarian through our staff directory. We are happy to help!