

Finding Periodical Articles

In libraries, magazines, journals, and newspapers are referred to as **periodicals**. Periodicals are issued on a regular basis (daily, weekly, monthly, etc.) and can contain articles, editorials, letters, opinions, short stories, poems, reviews, announcements, job and product information, cartoons, illustrations and advertisements. Periodicals can be popular (Time, Rolling Stone), academic (Journal of American History, Exceptional Children) or professional (Restaurant Hospitality, Automotive Engineering) in nature. Periodicals are often the best source of up-to-date information, such as statistics & quotes that help you to prove a point, or support an opinion, in a term paper, essay, debate, speech or presentation.

This library subscribes to over 300 periodicals in print; tens of thousands more titles are available online. If we don't subscribe to a periodical you need and it isn't available in full text from one of our databases, ask about InterLibrary Loan service.

The library's catalog can tell you if we subscribe to a particular periodical, but cannot help you find individual articles. Our library provides you with several databases that can help you get to periodical articles in a wide variety of subject areas.



Periodical Databases ...

- ◆ let you search for articles on any subject or keyword, concept, title, name (of people, places, products, organizations, etc.)
- ◆ provide you with information on where to find articles (called a citation), and may also give you an idea of what the article is about (called a summary, or abstract)
- ◆ often provide full text of certain articles (complete text of the article, as it appeared in print, although graphics may not be included)
- ◆ have their own subject indexes to help you narrow or broaden your search
- ◆ often have hypertext links to lead you to more articles & websites to give you more ideas
- ◆ use the Internet as a way to deliver information, making daily additions and updates possible
- ◆ make it easy to search specific dates
- ◆ may have a dictionary, citation guide, or other useful add-on for easy reference
- ◆ most only go back as far as the mid 1980's. Some only go back a few years. For articles older than 1985 that you cannot find online, ask for assistance in using the library's print indexes.



Using the Periodical Databases at NVCC

Easy access to information on the electronic periodical databases that the library subscribes to is available from the Electronic Databases page, on our website.

On-campus access is password-free. Off-campus access requires use of your NVCC student I.D. number and PIN to access. Use the [Off Campus Access](#) link above the database titles to search when you're away from the campus or using wireless technology.

The Databases

- ◆ The main grouping in the green section consists of databases provided by the Connecticut Digital Library (iCONN) and are available to college students throughout the state. These databases provide indexing for tens of thousands of magazine and journal titles, and often include full text articles. For help in choosing the database best suited to your needs, refer to the handout entitled "Electronic Databases at the LRC."
- ◆ The second grouping of databases is in the blue column to the left of the page. These databases are provided by the library of NVCC. The majority of these come from **EBSCOhost**. The entire list of EBSCOhost database titles, and what each provides, is accessible from the EBSCOhost button near the top of the column.

Please remember! Each database has its own internal print and email buttons. Use these buttons instead of the print icon on your toolbar.

Library staff is available for help in finding and using any of these databases.



Always an Option: Grab a magazine, journal or newspaper

Use the table of contents of a periodical to find its most current articles. Sometimes this is the easiest way to decide on a topic and find an academically appropriate article in one quick step, especially when an assignment requires use of subject-specific periodicals.

Browse the current periodical racks or click the [Journals & Newspapers](#) link from the library's main web page to discover the variety of subject areas our current subscriptions cover.