Fall 9-1-2014

Database Spotlight: Nursing Fall 2014

The University of Alabama in Huntsville

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Recommended Citation
The University of Alabama in Huntsville, "Database Spotlight: Nursing Fall 2014" (2014). Database Spotlight. 11.
https://louis.uah.edu/database-spotlight/11

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Although it isn’t listed under the Nursing Resources tab, the Project MUSE database isn’t just for the College of Liberal Arts! Did you know that the library provides access to fourteen journals in Project MUSE under the Medicine and Health heading? You can find it in our alphabetical listing of Databases under “P.” Once in the database, select Medicine and Health under Research Area, choose journals, then check the “Access” box to show only content UAH has full text access to.

These journals often cover issues in healthcare relating to ethics, politics, or history, such as the Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved, or the Bulletin of the History of Medicine. Project MUSE is for you, too!
Salmon Library provides access to a few thousand titles from ScienceDirect. This is a key resource for our Nursing program, as we have over 1,200 titles under the Health Sciences category alone that offer full text, as well as hundreds of abstracts. Add in the Life Sciences titles, and you add a few hundred more full text options. While our subscription is robust, take advantage of their Open Access collections as well! The database’s homepage has a link near the bottom left that will take you to a directory of open access content which can also be browsed by subject area.

Another great feature is ScienceDirect’s Top 25 Hottest Articles, located near the center of the page. This is a quick way to see a listing of some of the most relevant and highly cited content in a given year. Limit by Nursing and Health Professions to get a top 25 list which you can sort by year all the way back to 2004. In many cases, you can even view the most read articles from a particular journal! Elsevier uses data from a sister database, Scopus, to indicate how many times a given article has been cited. You can see that information under each journal! Elsevier uses data from a sister database, Scopus, to indicate how many times a given article has been cited. You can see that information under each journal! Elsevier uses data from a sister database, Scopus, to indicate how many times a given article has been cited. You can see that information under each journal!

Did you know…?
The Journal of Advanced Nursing was cited 11,383 times in 2013, according to Journal Citation Reports. Hint: We have this journal! Check it out!

Quick Tip: Look up SAGE Press Full-Text under our alphabetical database listing. Click the “Browse Journal List” then limit “By Discipline.” Check the radial button for “SAGE Journals Available to Me,” followed by “Health Sciences.” Now you have an instant list of our SAGE published journals covering 19 healthcare specific fields, such as Oncology, Palliative Medicine, or Nutrition. While multi-disciplinary in nature, our SAGE journal collection has dozens of titles tailored to the Health Sciences!

CINAHL : Tips and Tricks
It’s probably a given that you’ve visited this database at least once, and with good reason! The library’s CINAHL collection provides full text for hundreds of peer-reviewed journals, Evidence-Based Care Sheets, and Quick Lessons in over 17 Allied Health disciplines. What makes it special is the highly customizable, and oft overlooked, Advanced Search capabilities. For example, if you are concerned only with content authored by a nurse, there is a button built in for that! You can even specify the importance of the first author being a nurse, or just any contributing author being one. Need a case study? Go ahead and click that option under “Publication Type.”

With CINAHL, limiting your search topic to an age group, geographic area, or specialized area of study is a button push away!

AVL Spotlight: Alt Health Watch
If you aren’t already aware, the Alabama Virtual Library makes it possible for citizens of Alabama to access select resources such as databases of journals and newspapers. One of these is EBSCO’s Alt Health Watch, a database of holistic and alternative approaches to medicine. With nearly 200 resources indexed, you’ll find a mix of journals, pamphlets, and booklets addressing popular topics like aromatherapy, acupuncture, herbalism, and nutrition. It’s worth noting that you can find a number of full text, peer-reviewed articles here.

Additionally, you’ll find that their “Publication Type” result limiter under “Search Options” includes Health Reports. These are mostly MMRC Health Educator Reports, and to get these, limit to the above publication type, then select “Full Text.” This is a good way to look into topics such as nutrition and mental illness within the context of resources devoted to alternative medicinal practices. The “Image Quick View Types” are also a unique way to search for illustrations and photos depicting various procedures and techniques!