On the www wwcc edu home page click on Library from the top navigation menu. Or, directly visit www wwcc edu library from your browser address bar.
Select the **Course & Subject Guides** tab, then click on the **Nursing/Health Sciences** link.

**SEARCH**

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**FYI - GET HELP IF YOU NEED IT!**

Find Articles (* WWCC Identification number required for off-campus access.)

Download the [Nursing Database Search Tips](#) handout for tips on how to effectively search for a scholarly article from a nursing journal, published in the United States, 5 years ago or less.

- ProQuest (Recommended) Health and Medicine Subscription Databases
- Gale and EBSCO Health and Medicine / Other Subscription Databases
- Open Access Health and Medicine Databases
- Useful Websites
- Need Help?

**Citation Guides** – tools to help you cite your sources

**Primary vs Secondary Research** – visit this excellent Library Guide from Fitchburg State University

**Evaluating Information Sources** – determining usefulness based on Relevance, Authority, Purpose, and Timeliness

**Videos & Tutorials** – visit these really cool and quick self-help videos and interactive guides on various aspects of the research process!
Begin your search by selecting the **Recommended Health and Medicine Databases** menu.

- **Recommended Health and Medicine Database**
  - *ProQuest Health and Medicine Databases* (searches all ProQuest Health databases at once)
  - *Nursing and Allied Health Source*: This provides scholarly (peer-reviewed) healthcare information covering nursing, allied health, alternative and complementary medicine, and much more.
  - *Research Library: Health and Medicine*: This covers the latest in medical research.
  - *Family Health*: This database is for a more general audience covering a wide variety of health-related topics.

See search tips below.
Recommended Database: ProQuest

1. Click the **ProQuest Health and Medicine Databases** link (you may have to enter your NetID/PWD)
2. Click **Advanced Search** and fill in the search boxes using some or all of the following suggestions:
   a. Top search box(es) → type in **[key words]** for your topic; use two or more search boxes when your topic includes multiple key terms → (“Add a row” as needed)
   b. Next search box (“Add a row” as needed)
      - choose the **AND** Boolean operator
      - type **pbloc(United States)** in the blank box - (no space between pbloc and left parenthesis; this command will narrow the results to articles from U.S. publishers)
   c. Next search box (“Add a row” as needed)
      - choose the **AND** Boolean operator
      - type **nurs*** in the blank box - (the asterisk is a wildcard that will select any form of the word nurse i.e. nurse, nurses, nursing, etc.)
      - select **[in]** Publication title – PUB - (use this to narrow the results to journals with nurse, nursing, nurses, etc. in the title if the results are showing too many articles in non-relevant journals)
   d. Choose the following “Limit to” **Search Options** (filters) as needed:
      - Full text → use this if you don’t have time to wait for interlibrary loan (ILL) articles
      - Peer reviewed → use this if you are required to use scholarly/peer-reviewed articles and/or primary research articles
      - Publication date: choose **“After this date”** then enter a starting year of **5 years ago**
   e. Click the **Search** button.
3. Additional notes about results:
   - The **ICON** to the left of each title in the results list indicates the type of publication.
   - Verify the article meets your assignment requirements in terms of type and content.
   - If the abstract mentions “Review” it may be an indication that the information is not from a primary research source.

**Example**
If necessary, expand your search by exploring other subscription databases located under the **Other Health and Medicine Databases** menu.

**Recommended Health and Medicine Database**

- **Other Health and Medicine Databases**
- **Open Access Health and Medicine Databases**
- **Useful Websites**
- **Need Help?**

**Other Health and Medicine Databases**

- **Gale Cengage Infotrac Health Reference Center Academic**: This multi-source database provides access to the full text of nursing and allied health journals, plus the wide variety of personal health information sources.
- **EBSCO Health and Medicine Databases** (searches all EBSCO Health databases at once)
  - **Health Source – Nursing/Academic Edition**: Written for health professionals, find scholarly (peer-reviewed) articles on a variety of medical issues.
  - **Health Source – Consumer Edition**: Health information written for people with no medical background. This database offers a rich collection of consumer health information in the area of medical sciences, food sciences and nutrition, childcare, sports medicine, and general health.
  - **Medline**: The National Library of Medicine collects and indexes the information from over 4800 biomedical journals.
  - **MedicLatina**: This provides a variety of medical topics in Spanish.
  - **AltHealth Watch**: This provides articles about alternative health options, some are full-text and peer reviewed.

See search tips below.
1. Click the **Health Reference Center Academic** link
2. Click **Advanced Search** and fill in the search boxes using some or all of the following suggestions:
   a. Search box line 1 → type in key words for your topic in the blank box
   b. Search box line 2 →
      - choose the **AND** Boolean operator
      - choose **Publication Country** in the next box
      - type **united states** in the blank box - (this command will narrow the results to articles from U.S. publishers)
   c. Search box line 3
      - choose the **AND** Boolean operator
      - choose **Publication Title** in the next box - (use this to narrow the results to journals with a nurse in the title if the results are showing too many articles in non-relevant journals)
      - type **nurs*** in the blank box - (the asterisk is a wildcard that will select any form of the word nurse i.e. nurse, nursing, nurses, etc.)

Choose the following options in **Limit Results** to the following (filters):
- to documents with full text
- to peer-reviewed publications
- by publication date(s): click “**Between**” then enter the start year (subtract 5 from the current year) and the end year (the current year)

Click the **Search** button.

3. Additional notes about results:
   - Publication type is indicated to the right of each title in the results list.
   - Verify the journal is an American publication. European word spellings may be a clue that it’s not.
   - To view the full publisher information, click the publisher link under the article title.
   - If the abstract mentions “**Review**” or “**Literature Review**” this is an indication that the information is from a secondary source.

Example
EBSCO

1. Click the **EBSCO Health and Medicine Databases** link

2. Fill in the search boxes using some or all of the following suggestions:
   
   a. Search box line 1 → type in key words for your topic in the blank box
   
   b. Search box line 2
      - choose the **AND** Boolean operator
      - type united states in the blank box- (though not 100% accurate, this will help narrow the results to articles from U.S. publishers)

   C. Search box line 3
      - choose the **AND** Boolean operator
      - type nurs* in the blank box - (the asterisk is a wildcard that will select any form of the word nurse i.e. nurse, nursing, nurses, etc.)
      - select **SO Source** - (use this to narrow the results to journals with nurse, nursing, nurses, etc. in the title if the results are showing too many articles in non-relevant journals)

   Choose the following **Search Options** (filters):
   
   - Linked Full Text, Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals
   - Date Published: in the first “Year” box enter the start year (subtract 5 from the current year) and in the second “Year” box enter the end year (the current year)

   Click the **Search** button.

3. Additional notes about results:
   
   - The **ICON** to the left of each title in the results list indicates the type of publication.
   - Verify the journal is an American publication. European word spellings may be a clue that it’s not.
   - To view the full publisher information, click the **Citation/Abstract** link, then click the publisher link next to **Source**.
   - If the abstract mentions “Review” or “Literature Review” this is an indication that the information is from a secondary source.

**Example**
For even further investigation, you may also wish to explore open source materials located under the **Open Access Health and Medicine Databases**.

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**Open Access Health and Medicine Databases**

- **Directory of Open Access Journals – Nursing**: This is a direct link to a collection of scholarly peer-reviewed nursing journals within this multi-disciplinary database that are freely available on the Internet. Please check with your instructor to make sure open access journals will be accepted.

- **National Institute of Health (NIH) / National Library of Medicine (NLM) – Pub Med Central (PMC)**: PMC is a free full-text database of articles in the biomedical and life sciences.