How to Use Biological Abstracts
an OhioLINK research database

What is Biological Abstracts?

*Biological Abstracts 1980-Present* collects abstracts and bibliographic references to biological and medical literature worldwide. Biological Abstracts contains references to journal items focusing on biological and medical research findings, pharmacological studies, and discoveries of new organisms.

You are using an OhioLINK OSearch database if you see the OSearch name in the upper right corner of your screen. Some other OhioLINK research databases are:

- Applied Science and Technology Abstracts
- Biological and Agricultural Index
- Medline (Current, 1998-)
- Medline (Complete, 1966-)

Step 1. Connect to the database

- Connect to the ODU Library homepage: [http://www.ohiodominican.edu/library/](http://www.ohiodominican.edu/library/)
- From the Library’s homepage, follow these links: Articles & Databases → Click on Biology → Biological Abstracts

Step 2. Start Your Search

1. **To search by Keyword:** Use the search box to enter your search term(s). The default search for this database is a keyword search in “all fields” of the records.

   - Type a single word or phrase
     
   **Example:** saline
   **Example:** saline intake

   - Type AND to narrow your search or use OR to broaden your search
     
   **Example:** mosquito and malaria and microbial
     - Finds items that contain both the words “mosquito” and “malaria”

   **Example:** bats or chiroptera
     - Finds items that contain either “bats” or “chiroptera”

   - Type a dollar sign ($) to search for different endings of a word
     
   **Example:** proteasom$
     - Finds “proteasome,” “proteasomes,” “proteasomal”

2. **To search by Author:** Select Authors from the drop-down menu next to the search box and type the name in the search box:

   **Example:** behe, michael
   - Finds articles written only by Michael Behe

3. **To search by words in Journal title, or Article or Book title:** Make your selection from the drop-down menu next to the search box & type your words in the box

4. If you wish to use multiple search boxes, click on **More search boxes** and add your terms.

5. If you are familiar with and wish to search by the **subject terms** assigned to the records by the database, you can change the drop-down menu for any search box from “All Fields” to “Subject.”

6. If you would like to limit your search, click on **Show limit options** (see Step 3: Limit Your Search).

7. Click on the **Submit Search** button.
Step 3. Limit Your Search
To determine what limit options are available, click on Show limit options, below your search box.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>You can LIMIT your search by:</th>
<th>Example:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>1995 - 2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publication Type</td>
<td>Journal article; Literature review; Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant</td>
<td>Mammal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Step 4. Review & Locate Your Articles

1. Click on an article’s title to view the article citation, which will include a useful summary of the article.

2. Click on Find It near the article title to see if the article is available in full text online in the OLinks pop-up window. Follow these steps:
   A. If the article is available in full text, you will see a link for full text on the left side in your pop-up window, for example: [View full text of this article in the EJC]. Click on the link and follow the prompts for full text.
   B. If the above full-text link is NOT displayed on the screen, then click on the link Search by title in the Ohio Dominican University Library Catalog to search for the journal title in the ODU Library Catalog using a Title search.
      If the journal is in our library, then use the ODU Library Catalog to
      1) make sure the VOLUME & ISSUE NUMBERS you need are available and
      2) note the journal’s LOCATION.
   C. If the journal in which the article is published is NOT in our library, then return to your options in the pop-up-window and click on “View Inter-library Loan Options” so that you can do an Interlibrary Loan Request to obtain a copy of the article (allow 3-10 days for processing). For more information on interlibrary loans, visit the library homepage and click on Access Services, then Interlibrary Loan.

3. Use the Prev | Next links at the top of the results list to move from one page of results to another.

Step 5. Storing, Printing, Downloading, & Emailing Your Article Records

1. Click on Store or Store this Record near the article title to mark a record for storing. Then click on Results List (near the top of the screen) to go back to your list of records.

2. Click on Stored Records near the top of the screen on your results page to review, print, or email what you’ve stored.

3. From the Stored Records screen, you can view, print, download, email, or export your article records. Follow the prompts to complete this process.

For more help or to use some of the database’s advanced search features, click on Tips, Help, and Chat near the top of the database search screen.
Or contact a Reference Librarian: tel. (614) 251-4585 (toll-free 1-888-681-8044), email refdesk@ohiodominican.edu.