

FirstSearch features:



- Many databases in broad topic areas, containing citations, abstracts, and some full text
- Ability to search up to three databases simultaneously
- Ability to email search results or full-text articles to any email account
- Indicates whether or not articles are available at UM-Flint Library
- Ability to request interlibrary loans directly from database records

Using FirstSearch:

1. From the library's home page (lib.umflint.edu), click on the link *Periodicals: Indexes & Full Text*
2. On the left side of the page, click the link to *FirstSearch (OCLC)*
 - If you are accessing from off campus, you will have to enter your username and campus password.
3. The next page presents the main menu for FirstSearch. Toward the left of this display, below the tab labeled "Home", click the "List All Databases" button. Scroll down to the database of your choice, and click the title of the database. The "Advanced Search" screen will appear.

If you wish to search more than one index at a time in FirstSearch:

- a) After clicking "List All Databases", select up to three databases to search by clicking the boxes to the left of the database titles.
- b) Click on the *Select* button at the top or bottom of the list; the advanced search screen will appear, ready to search all selected databases.

4. Enter your search terms in the blanks (a search term may contain more than one word, e.g. "attention deficit disorder")
5. Click on the *Search* button to begin the search
 - The list of results displays in reverse chronological order (i.e. the most recently published articles are at the top). Article titles are links to more information about the article, including the abstract (if available).
 - If UM-Flint owns the article in print or microfilm, this icon appears:  (Check MIRLYN to verify that the library subscription covers the date the article was published).
 - If full text is available in FirstSearch, this icon appears:  Click on the full text link to view the article. (Note: Most articles are not available as full text in FirstSearch.)
 - Some articles are available online in other databases. To check, go to the article's full record (by clicking on the article's title), then click "Find Full Text."