

How Library Stuff Works Videos: How to Search PAIS

You need some journal articles for your assignment.

Start at the library homepage, click on Databases and then scroll down to Political Science.

Here you will find a list of Political Science databases.

Each of these contains full-text Political Science journal articles. Perfect for your essay!

Let's get started with PAIS Index.

Let's say you are looking for articles on Terrorism and Public Opinion. Just put in your search terms in the boxes provided.

Each topic gets its own line.

Limit your search to peer reviewed articles by clicking here: 'Check box – Peer Reviewed.'

If you want articles written in a specific time period, use this drop down menu.

Here are the results – there are 140.

Let's take a closer look.

The blue hyperlink is the title of the article, followed by the authors, journal title, volume, issue, date and page numbers.

This is the abstract, which is a short summary of the full text. To read more just click the blue hyperlink.

If it looks good click here ('get it') to read the article and then click here (full-text available from e-journals) or here (full-text online) to get the full-text.

Then click the P.D.F.

Here we are back at the database.

There are a few search features you should know about.

If you look at the left hand side of the page there are links to similar articles.

References will link you to this article's bibliography or works cited.

Cited by will link you to other articles that cite this one. Also, check out the similar documents.

These links are super helpful and can make finding articles fast and easy.

Let's go back to the main search page of P.A.I.S. and change our search to focus on Terrorism and Public Opinion in Canada.

All you need to do is to add Canad asterisk in the last search box.

Don't worry, I didn't spell Canada wrong.

Use the asterisk for any word that has multiple endings with the same meaning. So Canada with an asterisk will search for Canada, Canadian, and Canadians simultaneously.

Other examples are teenager (teen asterisk equals teen, teenager, teenagers, teenaged) and economics (econ asterisk equals economy, economies, economics, economical, economic).

And finally, my last super awesome tip is about citing.

Did you know that PAIS can create citations for you?

Just click on the article you want to cite, then click cite.

Use the drop-down menu to find the style you want and voila!