PROQUEST CENTRAL STUDENT

AVAILABLE VIA DESTINY DISCOVER

A Research Tutorial



WHAT IS PROQUEST?

- Online research database with access to thousands of scholarly and popular sources.
- Includes journals, newspapers, dissertations, reports, and more.
- Great resource for assignments, papers, and in-depth research.

ProQuest

WHY PROQUEST?

- Scholarly & Peer-Reviewed Content
- Advanced Search Tools
- Diverse source types such as Peer-reviewed articles, Magazines & newspapers, Government & industry reports, & Theses and dissertations
- Built-In Research Tools such as citation generators
- Free With JBHS Library Access!

HOW TO ACCESS PROQUEST

Navigate to the BUSD Destiny Discover Link (Burbankusd.follettdestiny.com)
Click on John Burroughs High School under the High School List
Click on the waffle at the top right. Then Destiny Discover.
Click on Login and Enter Your Login Credentials.

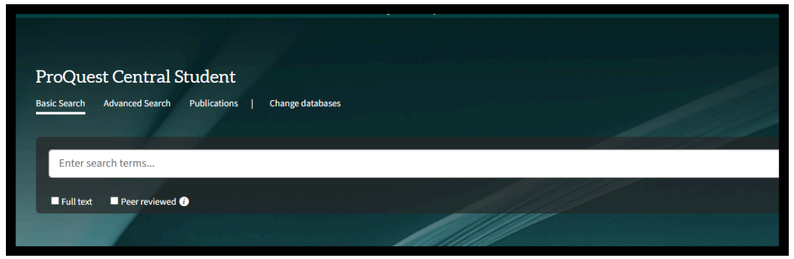
LOGIN CREDENTIALS

Username: Enter Chromebook Student Email Information
Password: Enter Last 4 digits of Student ID# Twice

UNDER LEARNING RESOURCES:
CLICK ON THE PROQUEST ICON

ACCESS TO PROQUEST SHOULD BE GRANTED AUTOMATICALLY

BASIC SEARCH



On the main ProQuest homepage, look for the Basic Search tab.

SEARCHES

ProQuest searches: Article titles, Abstracts (summaries) Author names Keywords and subject terms

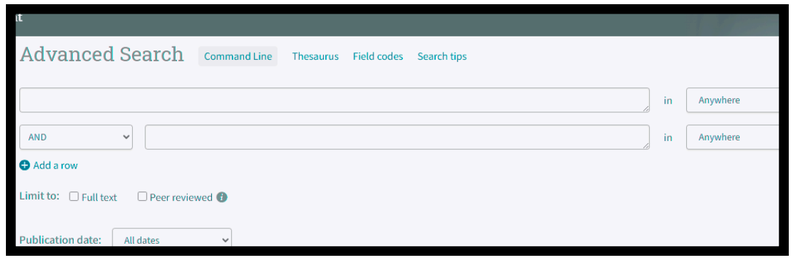
Type concept words, not full sentences. Use 2–4 meaningful words at most.

Avoid filler words like “the,” “impact of,” “effect on,” etc.

Can filter to Full-Text and Peer-Reviewed.

After search, you may Filter Results to Source Type, Publication Date, Document Type, Publication Title, Subject, Language, etc.

ADVANCED SEARCH



On the main ProQuest homepage, look for Advanced Search under the search bar.

USE QUOTATION MARKS IN SEARCH

Search exact phrases using quotation marks “ ”

Example: “climate change”

Without quotes, results may include “climate” and “change” anywhere in the text, separately

BOOLEAN OPERATORS

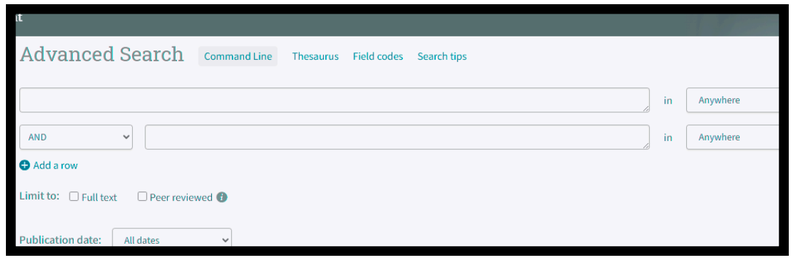
Boolean operators let you combine or exclude keywords to narrow or broaden your search

AND Narrows results (must include all terms) Ex. “social media” AND “teenagers”. (Finds sources that include both ideas)

OR Broadens results (includes any of the terms) “teenagers OR adolescents” (Finds sources with either term)

NOT Excludes terms. Ex. “sports” NOT “art”. Finds sources about “sports” not “art”

ADVANCED SEARCH(PT. 2)



On the main ProQuest homepage, look for Advanced Search under the search bar.

FIELD SEARCHING

Instead of searching everything, you can tell ProQuest where to look:

AU() for Author

TI() for Title

SU() for Subject

AB() for Abstract

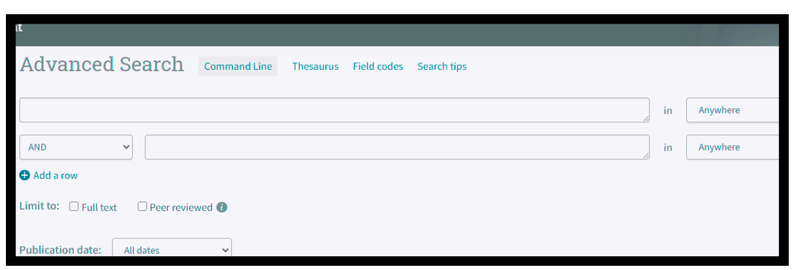
TRUNCATION

Truncation allows you to search for multiple word forms at once.

Use an asterisk (*) to replace word endings.

educat* → education, educator, educational

ADVANCED SEARCH(PT. 3)



On the main ProQuest homepage, look for Advanced Search under the search bar.

FILTERS AND LIMITERS

Use filters to refine your search

Key Filters to Highlight

Full Text → Only shows items with downloadable PDFs

Peer Reviewed → Scholarly, credible sources

Publication Date → Set a range (e.g., last 5 years)

Source Type → Academic journal, newspaper, magazine, etc.

Subject or Discipline → Focuses results on a specific field

EVALUATING SOURCES

What makes a source credible? You can utilize the CRAAP Test to evaluate the credibility of a source.

C- CURRENCY

Is it current or up to date for your topic?

R - RELEVANCE

Does it directly relate to your research question?

A - AUTHORITY

Who is the author/publisher? Are they qualified?

A - ACCURACY

Are claims supported by evidence? Can you verify facts?

P - PURPOSE

Why was the work written?

WHY USE THIS TEST?

Crucial for academic research and general information consumption, as it helps users avoid misinformation, bias, and outdated data by ensuring the information is trustworthy!

TYPES OF SOURCES

SCHOLARLY SOURCES

*These are the most reliable and credible for academic research. They are written by experts and often peer-reviewed.

Examples:

Scholarly journal articles – original research studies, experiments, or analyses

Conference papers or proceedings – research presented at academic meetings

Dissertations and theses – in-depth student research at the graduate level

Academic books or monographs – comprehensive works written by scholars

Research reports – government or institutional studies (e.g., from CDC, Pew Research Center)

POPULAR SOURCES

*Aimed at a general audience, often providing summaries or commentary on current events and research.

Examples:

Magazines – Time, National Geographic, The Atlantic

Newspapers – The New York Times, Washington Post, The Guardian

News websites – BBC, NPR, Reuters

Blogs or opinion columns (use with caution — often biased or informal)

Podcasts and interviews – when hosted by reputable journalists or experts

PRIMARY V. SECONDARY SOURCES

PRIMARY

*Original, first-hand accounts, records, or evidence created at the time of an event or by people directly involved.

Examples:

Diaries, letters, and journals

Interviews, speeches, or oral histories

Photographs, maps, videos, or artwork

Official documents – government records, court cases, legislation

Research data sets and field notes

Historical newspapers or archives

Original scientific studies or experiments

Autobiographies and memoirs

In ProQuest: Use filters like Document Type → Primary Source / Report / Interview.

SECONDARY

*Interpret, analyze, or summarize primary sources or original research.

Examples:

Review articles (summaries of many studies on a topic)

Textbooks and encyclopedias

Biographies

Documentaries or analysis essays

Literary criticism or historical analysis papers

CITING

WHY CITATION MATTERS



Gives credit to the original author (avoids plagiarism).

Builds credibility — shows you've done real research.

Helps readers (including teachers) find the same sources.

USING PROQUEST'S BUILT-IN CITATION TOOLS

Open an article in ProQuest.

Look for the quotation mark icon ("Cite") — usually on the right-hand toolbar or top menu.

Click Cite to open the citation window.

Choose your preferred style:

MLA (commonly used in English/humanities)

APA (used in psychology, social sciences)

Chicago/Turabian (history, advanced research)

Copy and paste the formatted citation into a document or note.

Important: These citations are auto-generated and can contain minor formatting errors (missing italics, capitalization issues).
Always proofread using your teacher's style guide or a trusted source like the Purdue OWL.

RESEARCH TIPS TO CONSIDER

DEFINE YOUR TOPIC CLEARLY

Know exactly what you want to learn or answer.

Break your topic into key concepts or questions.

IDENTIFY RELIABLE AND CREDIBLE SOURCES

Prefer scholarly, peer-reviewed journals for academic research.

Use reputable databases like ProQuest for trustworthy information.

Be cautious with blogs, social media, and unverified websites.

CONSIDER THE PURPOSE AND AUDIENCE

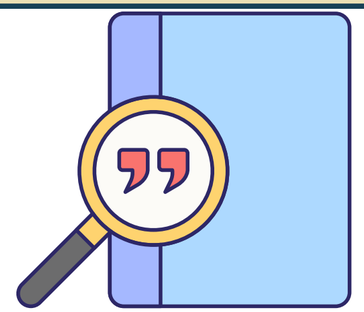
Is the source meant to inform, persuade, or entertain?

Tailor your research to the type of information your assignment requires.

ORGANIZE AND KEEP TRACK OF YOUR SOURCES

Save useful articles and keep citation information.

Use citation tools or managers to avoid plagiarism.



You got this!

THANK YOU

If you have any research questions, please feel free to stop by the library or email Ms. Latimer (shonicelatimer@burbankusd.org)

