

# Help using Abstracts in Anthropology

## Introduction

*Abstracts in Anthropology* is a cumulative index to published anthropological scholarship. In its paper format, *Abstracts in Anthropology* is published twice a year. The online database version contains abstracts from the 1990s to the most recent print issue. For more information about this resource, see: <http://anthropology.metapress.com/app/home/about.asp>

## Access

*Abstracts in Anthropology* is available by subscription. Eastern Michigan University has subscribed to this service on behalf of current students, faculty and staff.

To access this and other subscription databases, use the links on the EMU Library databases page: <http://www.emich.edu/library/databases/iadFullList.php>

Off campus users will be prompted for a my.emich username and password. If you have trouble with this step, see this page for help: <http://www.emich.edu/library/services/offcampus.php>

## Browsing

For the broadest possible results, use the Browse Subjects function. The resulting sets are usually quite large. For example, a search within the abstract (includes title) field for *sociolinguistics* results in less than two dozen abstracts, but clicking on the Subject link for Sociolinguistics results in over 600 abstracts.

## Searching

Searching may be done using keywords in the abstract, title, author or year, or any combination. Search examples and help are available under the “help” link.

The drop-down menu offers choices:

ALL WORDS – searches for all the words in any order (same as using “and”)

ANY WORDS – searches for instances of any one of the words in the search box (same as using “or”)

EXACT PHRASE – searches for the whole string of words in the order they are typed (same as using “quotation marks”)

Use the \* (asterisk) symbol as a wildcard. For example, search *Communica\** to find all abstracts with the words communication, communicating, communicatory, etc.

EXAMPLE: a search for *intergenerational communication as an “Exact Phrase”* within the abstract results in fewer than 5 articles, but *communica\* generation\** using “All Words” within Abstract – will result in over 25 articles.

## Locating the Articles

Abstracts in Anthropology does not allow direct use of the findtext+ tool, so locating the articles requires a few extra steps

1. Note the full citation of the article, including publication title (source), year, volume, issue and pages.

2. Open another window and go to the library’s home page, <http://www.emich.edu/library>

3. Click on the tab for “Journals by Title” and type in the title of the publication (source)

4. In the window that opens, if a long list of journal title appears, click the “starts with” radio button and then “go” to re-deploy the search

5. Once you see your journal title listed, check the date ranges for each option. The full-text options offered by databases should give date ranges. The catalog and Interlibrary loan options do not list date ranges

6. If full text appears to be available, click on the title of the journal for another window to pop up. The popup window may offer boxes to fill in with date and issue number, but it is usually more effective to leave those boxes empty and click on the red “go” button to open a third window, which will be the database that offers the journal. Now browse or search for the title of your article.

7. If no full text is available, check the catalog record for the journal to see if your volume and issue (or year) is available in a library location such as the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, microforms or ARC Storage. Interlibrary loan is available if there are no library holdings.

### ***Saving to RefWorks***

Abstracts in Anthropology citations must be copied manually into your RefWorks account. If you locate full text in another database, it is usually easier to export that record into RefWorks. Otherwise,

1. Perform your search in the Abstracts in Anthropology
2. Open another window and log in to your RefWorks account
3. In RefWorks, select the drop-down menu “References”
4. Click “Add New Reference”
5. Make sure Ref Type is set at Journal Article
6. Copy each element of information from the database and paste it into the appropriate RefWorks field
7. Click “Save Reference”