

Finding information for - Counselling

Unsure where to start looking for information for assignments? Look no further! This guide will get you finding information quickly and effectively.

How do I find books on Counselling?

Use the online library catalogue. Some of your books will be on Floor 5, (counselling applied to social work) others will be in the Floor 2 extension (counselling in connection with mental health, psychology and medicine.)

Use the **Keyword** search option for most of your catalogue searches. If you want to find books you know about, just type in the author's surname and one or two words from the title. Otherwise, type in words or phrases you'd associate with your topic. Put specific phrases in "quotation marks". You can click on **Help** at any time when using the catalogue if you're unsure how to find books.

What are journals and why should I read them?

Journals are regular publications (monthly, quarterly, etc.) that contain articles written by academic experts. The topic of the journal is usually obvious from its title, for example *British journal of guidance and counselling*

Journals:

- are more up-to-date than books – using current journals means you're using the latest published information;
- have reviewing processes that ensure only the best quality articles get published – writing for journals is how academics earn their reputations;
- can be more accessible than books – with thousands of journals available on the internet, and printed journals not allowed to be borrowed from the library, you will always be able to access articles for your assignments.

Examples of useful electronic journal titles include:

British journal of guidance and counselling
Counselling and psychotherapy research
Counselling psychology quarterly
International journal for the advancement of counselling
Journal of counseling and development
Journal of counseling psychology
Journal of family therapy
Journal of contemporary psychotherapy
Journal of mental health
Journal of psychotherapy practice and research
Patient and education counseling
Psychoanalytic psychology
Sociology of health and illness

How do I know which journal articles to read?

You can use databases to find articles to read. These are large collections of information about journal articles. They tell you things like:

- who wrote the article
- what it's called and what it's about
- which journal published it

Search databases on the internet by typing in words that describe the subject you're interested in. You can look for articles by specific writers, articles with your keywords in their title or summary, articles published after a certain date, etc.

Useful databases include:

AMED (Allied and complementary medicine) produced by the Health Care Information Service of the British Library. It covers a selection of journals in complementary medicine, palliative care, and several professions allied to medicine.

ASSIA (Applied Social Sciences Index and Abstracts) – this has information on articles especially useful to applied social sciences, for example health, social services and psychology.

CINAHL (Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health) Details of journal articles in nursing, allied health and biomedicine.

PsycArticles Full text of psychology journals from American Psychological Association.

PsycInfo Covers books and journals in the areas of psychology and related behavioural and social sciences, including many aspects of social work.


Science Direct Useful full text database for the sciences also giving coverage in social sciences and psychology

Social Services Abstracts Indexes over 1,400 serials publications in social work, human services and related areas.

Sociological abstracts – has information on articles about all sociological disciplines.

Web of Knowledge – select the **Social Sciences Citation Index**. This covers articles from 1981 onwards in a wide range of social sciences.

Once I've found details of articles I want, how do I read them?

Some databases will give you links directly to the article you want. You may see a **WebBridge** link  – click this to see if you can read the article over the internet. Otherwise, you can search the library catalogue (select **Journals** from the **All Collections** box). Remember to type in the name of the *journal* you want, *not* the name of the article.

If the journal is in the library in paper format, you will see which issues the library has by looking at the **Holdings** information on the catalogue.

Older issues of social science journals, which are bound together in volumes, are on Floor 5.

The catalogue will also tell you if you can access the journal over the internet (you will see the message “[Electronic Resource]” on the screen). The **Connect to** information will tell you which years’ issues are available. If you are only interested in journals available electronically, please visit our website.

Do I need passwords to use databases and electronic journals?

You will need your IT services login to access on-line journals, e-books, databases and your **My Library Account**. Either enter your IT log-in when you are directly requested for it or select **Alternative log-in** and choose the University of Warwick from a list of HE Institutions. You will then be prompted for your IT log-in directly.

Other materials online

Electronic books are also available on the library’s E-Resources web pages. Full text newspapers can be found from the **Factiva** database.

Instead of struggling to find information with search engines, try using a subject gateway. These bring together links to web pages on certain topics. Gateways of interest include:

- [Social Care on-line](#)
- [Intute](#)

Further help:

General enquiries

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Subject Specific Enquiries

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