

Finding Articles

This page is designed to assist you in finding scholarly articles. We'll walk through the steps of finding several articles on the same general topic. So, let's get started! :-)

Find Articles at the UCF Library

There are a few basics we want to cover quickly. First, as a UCF student, you have access to several types of reading and viewing materials through the library. You are given access through the UCF library as part of your tuition and fees. As long as you are a student at UCF, it is never necessary for you to pay for academic materials from the library.

Second, for academic purposes, we will focus on scholarly, peer-reviewed articles. In academia, we are particularly interested in empirical studies which required authors to collect and analyze data (look for a Methods section in the article). Scholarly articles are contained within academic journals. You could try to search individual journals, but UCF does not subscribe to every journal. Sometimes we have to ask for an article we want from a sister university through an inter-library loan. Don't worry, we'll keep our directions limited to articles to which UCF subscribes.

Third, we should use databases to search for academic literature. Databases provide an electronic filing system of multiple document sources, rather than searching single sources (e.g., journals) one at a time. As you will see below, because a database searches several types of sources, it will be important to specify that you only want your search to produce "scholarly, peer-reviewed articles."

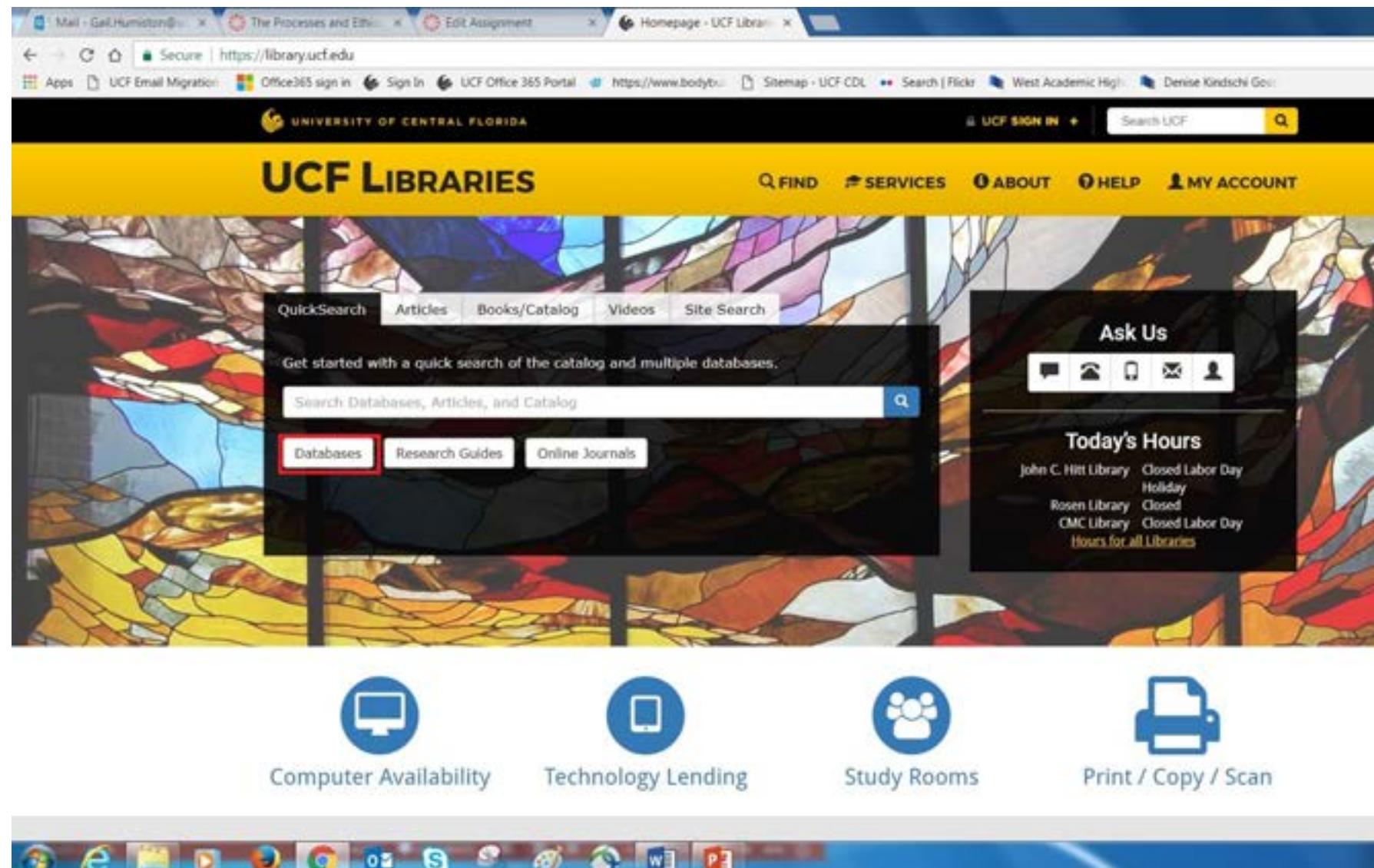
Finally, there's more than one way to go about doing a search for peer-reviewed, scholarly articles. So, if you know a different or better way than what is shown below, please feel free to continue your practices, as long as you get the desired results.

Steps and Example

In this example, we are going to examine an article on the topic of a very important criminal justice dependent variable - **recidivism** (<http://www.dictionary.com/browse/recidivism>). As a UCF criminal justice student who is interested in peer-reviewed, scholarly articles, follow these steps:

(Note - If a browser doesn't let you open articles, try another browser.)

First, go to the UCF library. Let's do this the way most of us do. Open a database search engine (e.g., Google) in a new tab. Search for the "UCF library". Chances are it is one of the first choices given to you. The homepage for the UCF Library looks like this:



The screenshot shows the homepage of the UCF Libraries website. The header features the University of Central Florida logo and navigation links for 'UCF SIGN IN', 'Search UCF', and 'MY ACCOUNT'. Below the header is a yellow banner with the text 'UCF LIBRARIES'. The main content area has a background image of stained glass. It includes a search bar with options for 'QuickSearch', 'Articles', 'Books/Catalog', 'Videos', and 'Site Search'. A sub-menu below the search bar offers 'Databases' (which is highlighted with a red box), 'Research Guides', and 'Online Journals'. To the right, there is a 'Ask Us' section with icons for messaging, phone, mobile, email, and user profile, and a 'Today's Hours' section listing library names and their status. At the bottom, there are four large blue icons with text labels: 'Computer Availability' (monitor icon), 'Technology Lending' (phone icon), 'Study Rooms' (people icon), and 'Print / Copy / Scan' (printer icon). A taskbar at the very bottom contains various application icons.

Note in the picture above, that the button for "Databases" is in a red box. Click on "Databases" and you should see:

The screenshot shows the UCF Libraries Databases page. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links like Mail, The Processes, Edit Assignment, Homepage, Home - Database, Criminal Justice, and UCF Federated. Below the navigation bar is the UCF logo and a search bar labeled "Search UCF".

The main content area has a yellow header "UCF LIBRARIES". On the left, there's a sidebar with categories: ARTS & HUMANITIES, BUSINESS, EDUCATION, ENGINEERING & COMPUTER SCIENCE, HEALTH, MEDICINE & NURSING, HOSPITALITY & TOURISM, MISCELLANEOUS, PUBLIC AFFAIRS & LAW (which is highlighted with a red box), SCIENCES, and SOCIAL SCIENCES.

In the center, there's a section titled "Browse Databases A-Z" with a link to "All | ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ#". Below it is a section titled "Databases by Subject" listing various fields of study: Africana Studies, Architecture, Art, Digital Media, English, Film, History, Latin American Studies, Modern Languages, Music, Philosophy, Religious Studies, Theatre, Women's & Gender Studies, and Writing & Rhetoric.

On the right, there's a "Popular Databases" sidebar listing: ABI/INFORM Complete (ProQuest), Academic Search Premier (EBSCOhost), CINAHL Plus with Full Text (EBSCOhost), ERIC (EBSCOhost), JSTOR, LexisNexis Academic, MEDLINE (EBSCOhost), PsycInfo (EBSCOhost), and Web of Science (ISI).

At the bottom, there's an "Ask Us" section with a message: "UCF's local IM chat is closed. Use the Florida Ask A Librarian Chat instead." It includes a "Ask a Librarian" button and a "Chat is offline" status with a message input field.

Since we are Criminal Justice and our department was housed in the College of Public Affairs and Law, click on "Public Affairs & Law" as shown in the red box. Your screen will change to:

The screenshot shows a web browser window with multiple tabs open at the top. The main content is the UCF Libraries homepage. A red box highlights the 'PUBLIC AFFAIRS & LAW' category in the 'Databases by Subject' sidebar. The sidebar also lists other categories like ARTS & HUMANITIES, BUSINESS, EDUCATION, ENGINEERING & COMPUTER SCIENCE, HEALTH, MEDICINE & NURSING, HOSPITALITY & TOURISM, MISCELLANEOUS, SCIENCES, and SOCIAL SCIENCES. To the right, there's a 'Popular Databases' section with links to various databases, and an 'Ask Us' chat feature.

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

UCF LIBRARIES

Browse Databases A-Z

A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | #

Databases by Subject

- ARTS & HUMANITIES
- BUSINESS
- EDUCATION
- ENGINEERING & COMPUTER SCIENCE
- HEALTH, MEDICINE & NURSING
- HOSPITALITY & TOURISM
- MISCELLANEOUS
- PUBLIC AFFAIRS & LAW**
- SCIENCES
- SOCIAL SCIENCES

Criminal Justice

Legal Studies
Public Administration
Social Work

Popular Databases

- ABD/INFORM Complete (ProQuest)
- Academic Search Premier (EBSCOhost)
- CINAHL Plus with Full Text (EBSCOhost)
- ERIC (EBSCOhost)
- JSTOR
- LexisNexis Academic
- MEDLINE (EBSCOhost)
- PsycInfo (EBSCOhost)
- Web of Science (ISI)

Ask Us

UCF's local IM chat is closed.
Use the Florida Ask A Librarian Chat instead.

Ask a Librarian

Chat is offline.

Chat is offline.

Now, we want to get to databases that are designed for Criminal Justice, so go ahead and click on it to find:

The screenshot shows a web browser window with multiple tabs open at the top. The active tab is titled "guides.ucf.edu/criminaljusticelibraries". The main content area is the "Criminal Justice Databases: Criminal Justice" page from the UCF Libraries website.

Best Bets

- Criminal Justice Abstracts (EBSCOhost) [1910+]
- Criminal Justice Collection (Gale)
- LexisNexis Academic
- National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS) [1970+]
- ProQuest Criminal Justice (1981+)

The "ProQuest Criminal Justice (1981+)" link is highlighted with a red box.

Criminal Justice Databases

- > Data & Statistics
- News & Newspapers
- Research Guides for Related Sources
- Web - Free Resources

Data & Statistics

- National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD)
- National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS) [1970+]
- UCF Crime Statistics

Can't Find What You Need?

Back to the Databases Page
Ask Us:

Your Librarian

A portrait photo of a female librarian with short blonde hair and glasses, wearing a dark blue shirt.

As shown above, there are several databases for Criminal Justice. If you hover your mouse over each of them, they will give you a brief description. Please feel free to explore them, and send our librarian any questions you may have. As indicated by the red box above, you can see that **I prefer and recommend that you begin your search using the “ProQuest Criminal Justice” database**. So, let's click on that. If you're on a UCF computer, the link should take you directly to the database. If not, you will see this sign-on screen:

The screenshot shows a web browser window with multiple tabs open, including "Criminal Justice" which is highlighted with a red box. The main content is the "UCF Federated Identity" login page. The page has a yellow header bar with the UCF logo and "UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA". Below this is a yellow login form containing fields for "NID" and "Password", and a black "Sign On" button. To the right is a yellow sidebar titled "LibraryEZProxy" with a message: "You have asked to login to LibraryEZProxy". It includes three links: "What is my NID?", "NID Password Reset", and "Trouble Signing On?". At the bottom center is the UCF logo and the text "UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA". The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows various application icons.

If you get the sign-on screen, please use your NID and password to sign in. After signing in, we should all now see the Proquest database.

The screenshot shows the 'Advanced Search' page of the Criminal Justice Database. The search query is 'recidivism AND crime'. The results are limited to 'Full text' and 'Peer reviewed' documents from 'All dates'. The search is set to 'Anywhere' for both terms. The results are sorted by 'Relevance' and show 50 items per page. The interface includes sections for 'Source type', 'Document type', and 'Language' with checkboxes for selecting multiple options. The 'Source type' section includes categories like Magazines, Newspapers, Other Sources, Reports, Scholarly Journals, Trade Journals, and Wire Feeds. The 'Document type' section includes Advertisement, Annual Report, Article, Back Matter, Bibliography, Biography, and Blog. The 'Language' section includes Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, French, and German. The browser's address bar shows the URL: https://search-proquest-com.ezproxy.net.ucf.edu/criminaljusticeperiodicals/advanced?accountid=10003&language=En.

Basic Search Advanced Search Publications

Advanced Search Command Line Thesaurus Field codes Search tips UCF Libraries

recidivism in Anywhere

AND crime in Anywhere

Add a row

Limit to Full text Peer reviewed

Publication date: All dates

Search Clear form

Source type:

- Select all
 - Magazines
 - Newspapers
 - Other Sources
 - Reports
 - Scholarly Journals
 - Trade Journals
 - Wire Feeds

Document type:

- Select all
 - Advertisement
 - Annual Report
 - Article
 - Back Matter
 - Bibliography
 - Biography
 - Blog

Language:

- Select all
 - Croatian
 - Czech
 - Danish
 - Dutch
 - English
 - French
 - German

Sort results by: Relevance

Items per page: 50

Here's where we need to enter our **search criteria**. One suggestion for deciding on search terms is to include your primary **dependent variable of interest**, such as recidivism and or crime. If you are interested in a particular **type of crime or offender** associated with recidivism or crime, then include that as well. Perhaps you are interested in violent crimes or offenders convicted of cocaine possession. Or, perhaps you are interested in **a particular evidence-based practice or program**, such as hot spot policing or Thinking for a Change.

As indicated by the red boxes in the picture above for our example, we want to search the main topic of "recidivism" and "crime". To keep the search broad, we will keep the defaults of searching "anywhere" for these words.

Next, we want to be sure to **limit our search to "Full text", "Peer reviewed", and "Scholarly Journals"** as shown above. If you forget to restrict your search to these criteria, you will likely find yourself sifting through all types of sources that do not meet academic writing requirements.

After entering the criteria for your search, click the "Search" button (not in red). The database will provide you with numerous peer-reviewed, scholarly articles in full text. Typically, it would be up to you to read the abstracts of the articles to decide whether it is relevant to your work, and then read the authors' original work.

In this case, I have chosen the article entitled *Post-Release Recidivism and Employment among Different Types of Released Offenders: A 5-Year Follow-up Study in the United States*.

Mail - Gaithersburg < The Processes < Edit Assignment < Homepage - UCF < Home - Data < Home - Data < Criminal Justice < Criminal Justice < PQ Search Results < X

Apps UCF Email Migration Office365 sign in Sign In UCF Office 365 Portal https://www.bodybuilding.com Sitemap - UCF CDL Search | Flickr West Academic Help Denise Kindschi Go!

10 Long-Term Follow-Up Studies Are Difficult: Comment on Langevin et al. (2004)/Reply to Webster, Gartner, and Doob
Hanson, R Karl; Langevin, Ron; Currie, Suzanne; Fedoroff, Paul. *Canadian Journal of Criminology and Criminal Justice*; Toronto 48:1 (Jan 2006): 103-105,107-117.
-term **recidivism**. *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency* 32: 325-337.
earliest known **crimes** to the most recent. Webster et al. have selected only one sex **crime**. This does not mean that a **recidivism** rate that includes
Cited by (4) References (4)
Abstract/Details Full text Full text - PDF (306 KB) Preview =

11 Race, Education, Employment, and **Recidivism** among Offenders in the United States: An Exploration of Complex Issues in the Indianapolis Metropolitan Area
Lockwood, Susan Klinner; Hally, John M; Ho, Taiping. *International Journal of Criminal Justice Sciences*; Thirunelveli 11:1 (Jan-Jun 2016): 57-74.
and **crime**. Specifically post-release **recidivism** was significantly correlated that ex-offenders would likely fall into a life of **crime** if they could not find **recidivism** rate because they would likely return to urban neighborhoods.
Cited by (2)
Abstract/Details Full text Full text - PDF (738 KB) Preview =

12 Post-Release **Recidivism** and Employment among Different Types of Released Offenders: A 5-Year follow-up Study in the United States
Nally, John M; Lockwood, Susan; Ho, Taiping; Khettry, Katie. *International Journal of Criminal Justice Sciences*; Thirunelveli 11:1 (Jan-Jun 2016): 18-34.
African-American-White difference in **recidivism**. *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency* 8(2), 124-132.
and **recidivism** among different types of released offenders before, during, and
References (75)
Abstract/Details Full text Full text - PDF (770 KB) Preview =

13 THE EFFECT OF DRUG USE, DRUG TREATMENT PARTICIPATION, AND TREATMENT COMPLETION ON PROBATIONER **RECIDIVISM**
Hueston, Bern M; Coolman, Jennifer. *Journal of Drug Issues*; Thousand Oaks 37:3 (Summer 2007): 619-641.
with **recidivism**, the odds of a rearrest for a drug **crime** were 2.17 times higher have been shown to reduce **recidivism** among this population; however, analyses drug use, drug treatment provision, and treatment completion on **recidivism** using
Cited by (44) References (55)
Abstract/Details Full text Full text - PDF (0 MB) Preview =

Whenever you find a relevant article, **I recommend that you download the Full text - PDF**. In the past, I have had students contact me immediately prior to a big project that is due, informing me that they are unable to access their articles because of technological problems. At

this educational level, a failure to plan is a plan to fail. I recommend downloading the pdfs and printing them out. There are couple of ways to access the pdf, as shown below.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with multiple tabs open at the top. The main content area displays a search result from the ProQuest Criminal Justice Database. The title of the article is "Post-Release Recidivism and Employment among Different Types of Released Offenders: A 5-Year follow-up Study in the United States". The authors listed are Nally, John M.; Lockwood, Susan; Ho, Taiping; Knutson, Katie. The source is the "International Journal of Criminal Justice Sciences" (Thirunelveli 9.1, Jan-Jun 2014), pages 16-34. Below the title, there are four tabs: "Full text", "Full text - PDF" (which is highlighted with a red border), "Abstract/Details", and "References". To the right of the article details, there is a sidebar with options like "Download PDF", "Cite", "Email", "Print", "Save", and "Add to Selected Items". Further down the page, there are sections for "UCF Libraries", "Documents with shared references (5028)", "Related items", "Search with indexing terms", and "Subject" (with categories like "Economic conditions"). At the bottom of the page, there is a toolbar with various icons for file operations. The URL in the address bar is <https://search-proquest-com.ezproxy.net.ucf.edu/criminaljusticeperiodicals/docview/1557153003/90811093499344E1PQ/11?accountid=10003>.

If you need further assistance in locating a scholarly empirical article from a peer-reviewed journal, or any other sources, be sure to **click on the "UCF Library Tools" at the left**. You will be directly linked to the UCF Library to the find resources and help you need! :-)