

## Walden Library Video Transcript

Title: How to Search an Undergraduate Database

URL: <http://youtu.be/7LG6FSIcnQI>

Begin Transcript

**Visual:** Academic Search Complete database search page

**Narration:** This video demonstrates a basic search in a library database. You use databases to find articles and other sources. For this search we are using Academic Search Complete, a multidisciplinary database that covers a variety of subjects.

**Visual:** Slide showing a research topic

**Narration:** First look at your topic and identify the major concepts. Here is a sample research question:

What are some of the issues adult learners experience in online education? The major concepts are: adult learners and online education. Use these as your keywords to start a search. Effective keywords refer to specific, concrete ideas.

**Visual:** Academic Search Complete database search page

**Narration:** Type your keywords into the search boxes, one concept per box. Use phrases only when the words must be found next to each other. Add limits to your search if you need them. This database automatically limits to full text, but it is also useful to limit to scholarly, peer-reviewed journals or to specify a date range. Now click Search.

**Visual:** Academic Search Complete database results page

**Narration:** We found 28 results. You can explore your results now for useful articles, or look at the words used in your results to improve your search. In the first result is an alternative term for one of my keywords: adult students, which is another way of saying adult learners. Group similar terms in the same search box, separating the terms with OR. This tells the database to find articles that mention either adult learners OR adult students. I can use this strategy for my other term, online learning. I see several additional terms that refer to the same concept. I can also add those to my search to increase the number of results found.

**Visual:** Academic Search Complete database results page after new search

**Narration:** When search is clicked again, 102 results are found. You can see what type of source each result is by looking to the left of the article information. This first result is from an Academic Journal. You may also find articles from trade journals, magazines, and newspapers. To learn more about what an article is about, click its title to read the abstract, which is a short summary of the article. This can help you decide if the article matches what you need. To see the entire article, click a full text link. Just look for a PDF or HTML Full Text link. Click the link to open the full text.