

Walden Library Video Transcript

Title: Identify Measurement Instruments

URL: <http://youtu.be/xoaw0q1vud4>

Begin Transcript

Visual: Dissertation database links page

Narration: Many dissertations use established tests and measurement instruments. You can look at dissertations on your topic to identify which instruments may be useful for your own research. When looking for a measurement instrument, it's best to search all dissertations, not just Walden. This way you can see what has been used by researchers across all institutions in the dissertations database.

Visual: Dissertation search page

Narration: When searching for an instrument, you will need to do a fairly broad keyword search. For example, I am going to search for coping and stress. It is also helpful to use keywords that indicate an instrument, such as test or survey or instrument or questionnaire. Click search to see your results.

Visual: Database results page

Narration: Start by checking the abstracts of your results. Abstracts typically list the instruments used by name.

Visual: Abstract of a dissertation

Narration: This particular dissertation uses two instruments: the Coping Humor Scale and the Situational Humor Response Questionnaire. You can explore the dissertation further to determine if either scale is relevant to your own research. Looking at several dissertations will give you an idea of the variety of instruments available on a topic, and help you select the one that is most appropriate for your own research.