



## Sociology Literature Review

A literature review seeks to identify, summarize, and discuss important **scholarly** articles on a given topic, question, or area of research. Typically, literature reviews are undertaken early in the research process and help the researcher identify areas for further research. Much of the **scholarly** sociology research is published in peer review journals, so it is important to identify what characteristics make up a **scholarly** research article and which journals are important sources of **scholarly** information.

What follows is a list of some of the **scholarly** journals to which the library subscribes. All of the journals listed below are available in paper, and can be found in the periodicals section of the library. Older, back issues of these journals could be available in microforms.

*American Journal of Sociology*  
*Journal of Social Issues*  
*Social Forces*  
*Social Problems*

The library also subscribes to many sociology journals and indexes through three electronic sources such as: *Tennessee Electronic Library*, *Ebscohost* and *FirstSearch*. Many more journals can be accessed through the library's electronic databases than are physically available in the library's periodicals. While *FirstSearch* is only available in the library, *Ebscohost* and *Tennessee Electronic Library* can be accessed from off campus

To log on to the Tennessee Electronic Library from outside of the library go to Library's Web Site (from the Lambuth home page and click on academics next click on the Lambuth Library link on left side of the page or if you prefer <http://www.lambuth.edu/academics/library/library.html>. Look for the link labeled *General Onefile*.

To log on to the EBSCOhost databases go to Library's Web Site (from the Lambuth home page click on academics. Next, click on the Lambuth Library link on left side of the page or if you prefer <http://www.lambuth.edu/academics/library/library.html>. Once at the library's web site click on the link labeled find articles *Academic Search Premier* and *Psychology and Behavioral Sciences* is the first link on the left.

**You should consider and evaluate the source every time you find found one.**

What is the background of the author?

What institutions are represented?

Can you identify the editor of the journal?

Is there a bibliography?

Look at the language and try to judge the audience. What sort of language would you expect a research article to use?

**You have several options for finding information on your topic.**

*Social Science Index* (paper)

Browse journals (paper)

Bibliographies at the end of a relevant article (paper)

Keyword searching databases (electronic)

Journal title search (electronic)

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