



# PSYC 100W

RESEARCH SESSION





# **WELCOME TO TODAY'S CLASS!**

## TODAY'S AGENDA

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Class Objectives

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Review of Library

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Choosing a Topic

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Literature Review

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Finding Databases

---

Searching Databases

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Lab Activity

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Wrap Up & Close

## **CLASS**

### **OBJECTIVES**

By the end of this instruction session, you will:

- Review the library homepage & general library offerings
- Explore how to choose a topic for your assignment
- Become familiar with a literature review
- Learn how to locate academic databases for your assignment
- Understand how to build a keyword search in a database for your topic of interest
- Discover how a database can help you develop your topic
- Learn how to locate articles you do not have access to through our library
- Be able to manage your articles and resources







**COVID-19 ALERT: LIBRARY SERVICES AND RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE!**

Help is available via [chat](#) and [e-mail](#). For more information, please see the [Library FAQs](#)

[Articles](#)[Journals](#)[Course Reserves](#)[Google Scholar](#)[Using OneSearch](#) | [Advanced Search](#)[Articles & Databases](#)[SJSU ScholarWorks](#)[Interlibrary Loan](#)[Need Help?](#)[eTextbooks](#)[My Library Account](#)[RefWorks](#)[Borrow a Laptop](#)

## RESEARCH GUIDES

### Subject Guides

[Go](#)

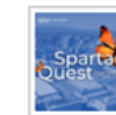
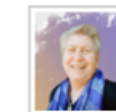
### Course Guides

[Go](#)[Browse All](#)**TODAY'S CHAT HOURS****Wed 09/16****9am – 7pm**[All Hours](#) | [Chat Now](#)

## ONLINE LIBRARY RESOURCES

[Online Library Resources](#)[Start Your Research](#)[Free eTextbooks](#)

## LIBRARY EVENTS

**Spartan Quest:  
Social Justice &  
Campus Connections****Sep 24  
12 pm****Celebrate 100 Years  
of Women's Suffrage****Oct 22  
4 pm**[See all events](#)

# CHOOSING A TOPIC



## It Takes Time

Be prepared to spend some time thinking about your topic. You may have a few ideas to begin with and you may change your topic during this process. It's recommended that you also choose a topic that is of interest to you.



## Strategy Suggestion

When you first begin building searches within library databases, start broadly. After you have done some initial searching you might be able to use your search results to help you narrow and focus your topic.



## Let the Database Help You

Use the tools available in the database to assist you with looking for specific and measurable factors on which to focus your research also identify trends.

# WHAT IS A LITERATURE REVIEW?

A literature review is a summary of the research findings (scholarly articles) on a specific topic.

- Identify key theories and results
- Describe, critique and evaluate a large number of resources
- Demonstrate how area of study has evolved and discuss influences that impacted area



# WHERE DO YOU GO TO FIND YOUR RESOURCES FOR YOUR LIT REVIEW?

Typically, you want to use scholarly (peer reviewed) journal articles. These articles can be found in the electronic databases available from the library.

Below are some suggestions databases for psychology:

- PsycINFO - primary database for your subject area
- ScienceDirect - database with a science focus
- Medline - database with a medical focus

# WHERE DO YOU GO TO FIND YOUR RESOURCES FOR YOUR LIT REVIEW?

typical scholarly (peer reviewed) journal articles. These  
are available through electronic databases available from the library.  
The following are databases for psychology:

## Quick Hint

For more explanation on  
how to do a lit review  
see the library's tutorial at:  
[library.sjsu.edu/tutorials/  
writing-literature-review-section](http://library.sjsu.edu/tutorials/writing-literature-review-section)

Choose a database for your subject area  
with a science focus  
with a medical focus



# WHAT HAS BEEN RESEARCHED ABOUT MY TOPIC



Focus on a main topic such as a:

- status
- event
- condition
- phenomena

Then focus on subtopics such as:

- population or demographic
- issue(s)
- specific factors
- correlations

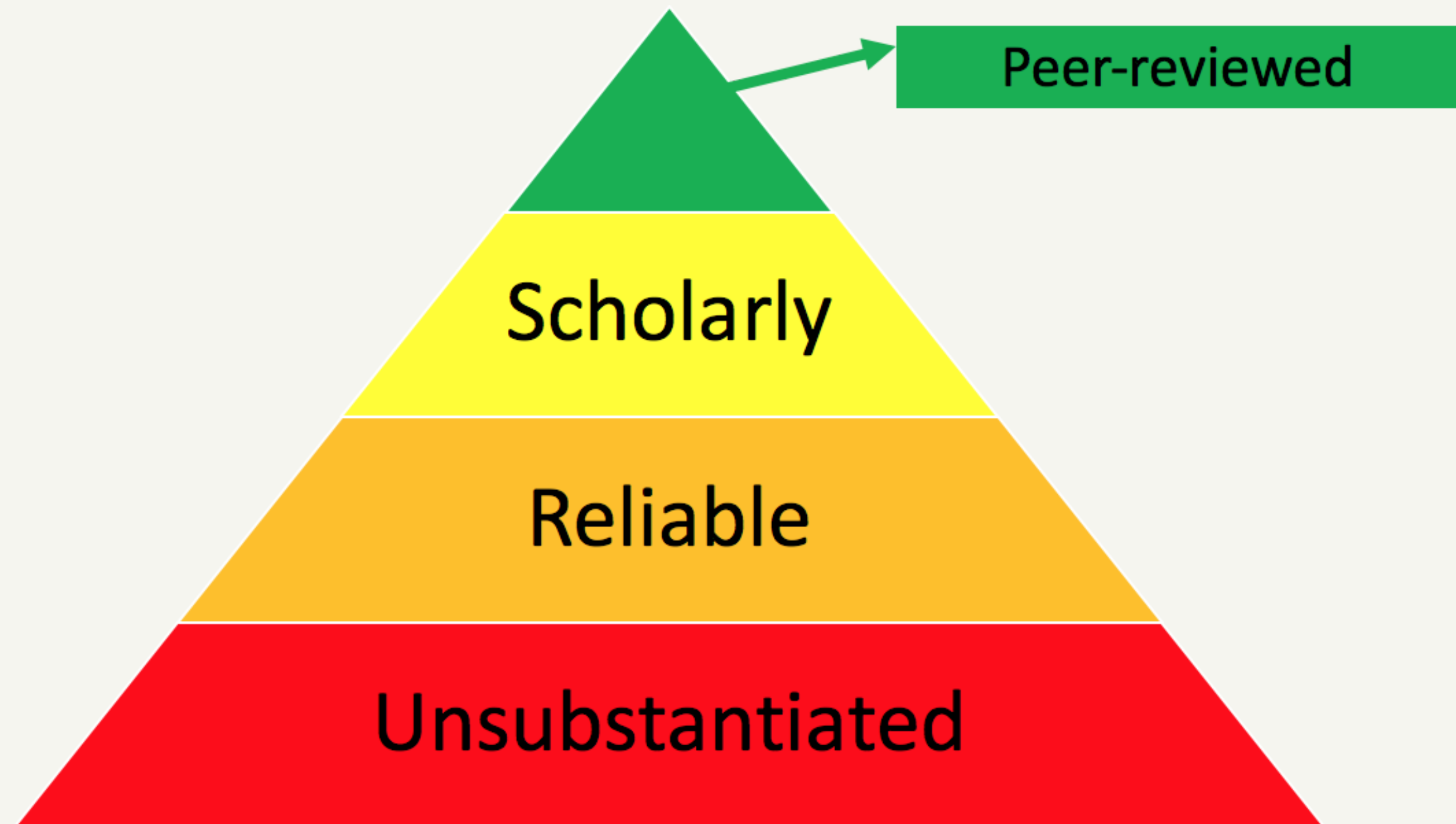
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SUGGESTED SEARCH TOPIC

How does online bullying  
impact teenagers?





**TRY AND LEARN**  
ACTIVITY:  
SEARCHING LIBRARY  
DATABASES

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# Using Search Terms

## Natural Language

How does online bullying  
impact teens?

## Keyword(s)

Online bullying  
Teenagers

## Search Terms

Cyberbullying **AND**  
Adolescence **AND**  
mental health

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# WRAP-UP & REVIEW

## DEVELOPING A TOPIC



### Broad Topic

I started with a general question about the impact of online bullying on teenagers and their self-esteem



### Adjusted Topic

After searching in the database I determined that 'cyberbullying' might be a better term to use in place of online bullying and 'adolescence' might be a better term to use in place of teens or teenagers



### Final Topic

Cyberbullying AND Adolescence AND mental health

Other areas of focus could have been any of the following:

- adolescent development
- adolescent attitudes
- high school students
- coping behavior
- prevention



**YOUR LIBRARY  
CONNECTION(S)**

Christa Bailey

Your Librarian

[christa.bailey@sjsu.edu](mailto:christa.bailey@sjsu.edu)

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[library.sjsu.edu](http://library.sjsu.edu)

Your Library Homepage

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[libguides.sjsu.edu/psychology](http://libguides.sjsu.edu/psychology)

Your Psychology Guide

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