The *Sociological Collection* is a comprehensive database covering information in all areas of sociology, including social behavior, human tendencies, interaction, relationships, community development, culture and social structure. This database provides complete full text for more than 500 important journals, including more than 450 peer-reviewed titles. In addition to the full text, indexing and abstracts are provided for nearly 500 journals.

**How to Access Sociological Collection**

1. Go to the Blinn College Library Homepage: www.blinn.edu/library
2. Select “Journal, Magazine, & Newspaper Articles”
3. Select “A – Z List of Indexes”
4. Select “Sociological Collection.” If you are accessing this database from off campus you will be prompted to enter a user name (student ID #) and password (your birth date in this form: yyyyymmdd).

**How to Search for Journal Articles**

**Sample Search Topic:** Find articles from scholarly (also referred to as academic or peer-reviewed) journals on the topic of school violence.

**Step One:** In the top search box, type in your topic (school violence). A group of words typed in the same search box will be treated as a phrase. Then, choose the type of field you would like to search by selecting it from the drop-down menu to the right of the search input box. If you conduct a “Default Field” search, all fields will be searched for that keyword or phrase.

**Step Two:** Once you have entered in your search keywords, you should limit your results further by scrolling down to the section of the search screen entitled Limit Your Results. Checkmark the boxes entitled Titles Available at Blinn Library and Full Text. By checking both of these boxes, your list of results will include items that are available for full text viewing online, and if they are not available full text, they will be from print publications subscribed to by the Blinn Libraries. To retrieve results from scholarly journals, you should also check the box entitled Peer Reviewed.

Be sure to limit your results to “Full Text.” and “Titles available at Blinn Libraries.” Select “Peer Reviewed,” if you would like to retrieve results exclusively from scholarly journals.
Step Three: The list of results (or citations) contains the basic information about the articles, including an abstract or description of the article. If the article is available full text online there will be links to HTML Full Text and/or PDF Full Text. PDF Full Text is the scanned image of the print journal article and requires the Adobe Acrobat Reader to view. HTML Full Text contains only the plain text of the article. If the article is not available full text online and there is a note in the citation indicating that “Blinn Library subscribes to this periodical”, first identify the title of the journal. Once you have identified the journal title, search the online catalog by journal title to determine the journal’s location and the library’s holdings for the journal. You may request articles from journals that are at other Blinn campuses.

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