



Writing a Research Paper

Part 1. Finding Resources

-Choose a paper topic by reading magazines, news stories, encyclopedias or by talking to your instructor or friends.
topic example: drug use effects on driving abilities

-Look for **books** in the library by searching the [catalog](#).

The screenshot shows the library catalog interface. At the top, there are navigation links: Home | Standard | **Advanced** | Clipboard. Below this is a search bar with a dropdown menu set to 'All Words', a text input field containing 'drug use', and buttons for 'Search' and 'Clear Search'. A red oval highlights the search bar area. Below the search bar, there are options for 'Item | List | Shelf - 1 to 10 of 12' and a pagination indicator '(1) 2 of 2 Jump to: []'. The main content area displays four search results, each with a book cover image, title, author, and publication details. Each result also includes 'Holdings: 1' and 'Available: 1' information, along with an 'Add to Clipboard' link.

Book Cover	Title	Author	ISBN	Pub. Date	Call Number	Holdings	Available	Action
	A-Z guide to drug-herb-vitamin interactions : improve your health and avoid side effects when using common medications and natural supplements together /	Alan R. Gaby, chief science editor ; Forrest Batz, Rick Chester, George Constantine ; with contributions by Steve Austin ... [et al.]	0307336646	c2006	LIN RM 666 H33 A16 2006	1	1	Add to Clipboard
	Combining alcohol and other drug abuse treatment with diversion for juveniles in the justice system	McPhail, Michael W.		1995	*HV 9104 .C562 1995	1	1	Add to Clipboard
	Drug and alcohol abuse : the authoritative guide for parents, teachers, and counselors	Milhorn, Jr., H. Thomas	0306446405	1994	HV 5824 .Y68 M53	1	1	Add to Clipboard
	The facts about drug use : coping with drugs and alcohol in your family, at work, in your community					1	1	

-Browse the internet's authoritative **websites**
(look for these sites on your department page www.BrownMackieLibrary.com)
If you use Google, look for website URLs that end in .edu, .gov. or .org



Using Research Databases

-Login to the BMC Portal

-Click on "Library"

The screenshot shows the My.BrownMackie.edu student portal. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Academics, Student Finance, and My Campus. A welcome message is displayed, along with a notification for Firefox 7. A sidebar on the right contains a 'Student Services' menu with options for Gmail, Student Self-Service, and Library. The 'Library' option is circled in red. Below the welcome message, there are 'Top Stories' featuring articles like 'BMC Common Thread', 'G.I. Jobs Recognition', 'Employer Spotlight', and 'Student Spotlight'.

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-Click on "Find By Resource", then "Articles & More"

The screenshot shows the My.BrownMackie.edu library website. At the top, the student number is 1013893789 and there are 0 messages and 0 actions required. The main navigation menu includes Home, Services & Policies, Find By Subject, Find By Resource (circled in red), and Copyright & Citation. The 'Find By Resource' dropdown menu is open, showing options: All Resources, Articles & More (circled in red), Books & more, Reference Databases, and Reference Websites. Below the navigation is an 'Ask a Librarian' section with contact details for mmoon@brownmackie.edu. A search bar with a 'Keyword' dropdown and a 'Search' button is present. At the bottom, there are two search options: 'Find By Resource' (Find by resource type. Find books, articles, websites and more. Select Resource Type dropdown) and 'Find By Subject' (Find library resources categorized by subject. Select Subject dropdown).

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-Select a Database from the alphabetical list (ProQuest will serve most of your needs)

My.BrownMackie.edu You have **0 Messages** **0 Actions Required**

- Home
- Services & Policies ▶
- Find By Subject ▶
- Find By Resource ▶
- Copyright & Citation ▶

Ask a Librarian

mmoon@brownmackie.edu

1011 Glendale-Milford Road
Cincinnati, OH 45215

513.672.1595

Mon, Tue, Thu: 8:00am - 9:00pm
Wed: 8:00am - 4:00pm
Fri: 8:00am - 5:00pm

Need Help?

Find By Resource: Articles & More

- A-Z of Online Journal Titles +
- ABI/INFORM Complete +
- ABI/INFORM Dateline +
- ABI/INFORM Global +
- ABI/INFORM Trade and Industry +
- Accounting & Tax +
- Arts & Humanities +
- Asian Business & Reference +
- Banking Information Source +
- Biology Journals +
- Canadian Business & Current Affairs +
- Canadian Newsstand Complete +
- Career & Technical Education +
- Chronicle of Higher Education +
- Cochrane Library +
- CompuText +

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-Find scholarly journal articles using good search terms, and enter them into the “Advanced” search boxes.

Ex. drug use effects on driving abilities

Search | **Advanced** | Publications Preferences |

ProQuest

Advanced Search

Other search options: [Look Up Citation](#) | [Command Line](#) | [More](#) ▼

drug	←	Key fields + text
AND (effects	← or	Key fields + text
AND (driving	← or	Key fields + text

[Add a row](#) | [Remove a row](#) [Search](#) [Clear form](#)

Limit to:

Full text Scholarly journals [?](#)

Date range: [All dates](#) ▼

▼ [More options](#)

Locations*: [Look up Locations](#)

Search tools

[Thesaurus](#)
Find subject terms to broaden your search.

[View field code](#)
Use codes to limit search to a specific field.

[Search tips](#)
Use quotation marks for exact search for exact phrases.

[Search subject](#)
Use search for specific subjects.

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-If necessary, limit to Full Text and Scholarly Journals (or other types of sources using the right side-bar)

The screenshot shows the ProQuest search interface. At the top, the search query is "drug AND effects AND driving". Below the search bar, there are two checkboxes: "Full text" and "Scholarly journals", both of which are circled in red. A red arrow points from the "Scholarly journals" checkbox to the "Source type" filter in the right-hand sidebar. The sidebar also has "Source type" circled in red. The search results show 117,906 results. The first result is titled "Effects of oxcarbazepine and carbamazepine on driving ability: a double-blind, randomized crossover trial with healthy volunteers" by Kaussner, Yvonne; Kennner-mabiala, Ramona; Hoffmann, Sonja; Klatt, Jan; Tracik, Ferenc; et al. The article is from Psychopharmacology 210.1 (May 2010): 53-63. The abstract text is partially visible: "... Results Both drugs had negative effects on driving as reflected in poorer ... the CBZ values. The driving-related side effects of both drugs occurred mainly ... Negative drug effect on driving ability was most obvious". The sidebar on the right shows "Sort results by" set to "Relevance" and "Narrow results by" with "Source type" selected. The source type counts are: Newspapers (52681), Scholarly Journals (30455), Wire Feeds (15310), and Trade Journals (10413).

****Choose an article that is long enough to summarize****

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Part 2. Summarizing Journal Articles

-Read the abstract and underline or circle all words from the abstract that you don't understand, then look them up in a dictionary ex. www.dictionary.com

Full Text [Translate](#) | [Turn on search term navigation](#)

Headnote

Abstract-

In the United States, one in six teenagers has driven under the influence of marijuana. Driving under the influence of marijuana and alcohol is equally prevalent. Despite the fact that marijuana use is less common than alcohol use. Much of the research examining the effects of marijuana on driving performance was conducted in the 1970s and led to equivocal findings. During that time, few studies included women and driving simulators were rudimentary. Further, the potency of marijuana commonly used recreationally has increased. This study examined sex differences in the acute effects of marijuana on driving performance using a realistic, validated driving simulator. Eighty-five subjects (n = 50 males, 35 females) participated in this between-subjects, double-blind placebo controlled study. In addition to an uneventful baseline segment of driving, participants were challenged with collision avoidance and distracted driving scenarios. Under the influence of marijuana, participants decreased their speed and failed to show expected practice effects during a distracted drive. No differences were found during the baseline driving segment or collision avoidance scenarios. No differences attributable to sex were observed. This study enhances the current literature by identifying distracted driving and the integration of prior experience as particularly problematic under the influence of marijuana.

Keywords-acute effects, cannabis, cognition, driving, marijuana

Despite its illegal status, marijuana (Cannabis sativa) is commonly used in the United States. Over one-fourth

-Read the summary/abstract until you understand it well. If you don't really understand the summary, you will have a difficult time understanding the article.

-The basic pieces of info you want to make sure you know:

- Who participated in the study?
- What did the participants do in the study? (take a certain kind of test, complete a survey, participate in an interview, etc.)
- What is special about this study (compared to other similar studies)?
- What are the conclusions or results of this study?

In this example:

- 50 males and 35 females participated in the study who were recreational drug users
- Participants were given a simulated driving test after having smoked either an active marijuana cigarette or a placebo cigarette
- This study was done to compare marijuana effects between sexes (most other studies did not include women). It was also completed using an improved modern driving simulator.
- This study found that there was not a significant difference between male and female driving impairment while high. When distracted, both sexes driving while high had impaired performance.

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**There are two other kinds of journal articles which can be useful to you:

1. Evaluation Research
2. Review Articles

Evaluation Research looks at how successful a program or system is. It will measure things like cost-effectiveness, if the program's goals are met, or limitations to the program.

Review Articles discuss the background of a topic, often summarizing previous research. There is usually a section that suggests areas where new research should be developed.

-Read the article again so that you know more details to include in your summary.

For example: how participants ingested marijuana, what kinds of things the driving simulator tested, how the driving simulator worked, who was excluded from the study, etc.

-After you know all the above information about the study, put the article away. If you copy out the important lines directly from the article, you may be plagiarizing, and your summary will not flow well.

-Write down what you remember in a few paragraphs with complete sentences and complete ideas.

Example: Males and females participated.

OR- Males and females participated in this study.

Example: This study was done with men and women. Other studies didn't.

OR- This study tested the difference of drug effects on male and female drivers, while other studies testing drug effects on driving did not include women.

Use spell-check! (just press the F7 key on the keyboard, or use the 'Review' tab)



Part 3 Citing your Sources

-Include in your reference (works cited or bibliography) page any sources of information you used.

*Most of your instructors want you to use APA formatting. For MLA formatting rules, see the [Purdue guide](#).

-To cite a **book**, find the following information on the beginning pages of the book:

- Author (first and last name)
- Book title
- Location published
- Publisher
- Date published

-Format this information as follows:

Lastname, Firstinitial. (Date). *Book title*. Location published: Publisher.

Example:

Milhorn, H. T. (1994). *Drug and alcohol abuse: the authoritative guide for parents, teachers, and counselors*. New York: Plenum Press.

-To cite a **website**, find the following:

- Webpage name
- Date of publication
- Website name
- Date retrieved
- Website address

-Format this information as follows:

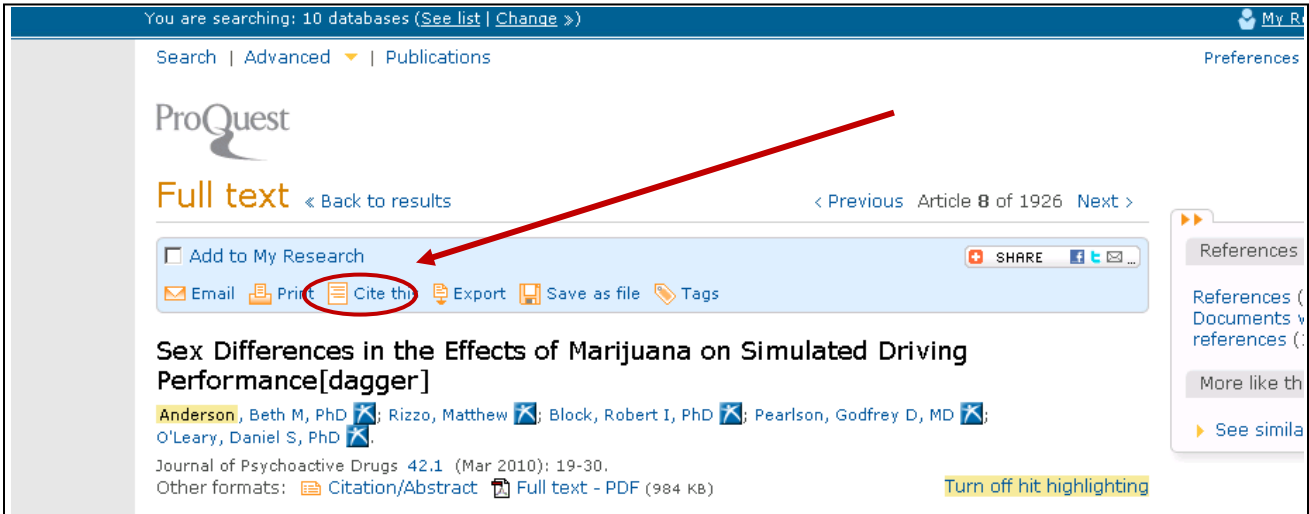
Webpage name. (date published or n.d. if there isn't a date). Website name. Date retrieved, from Website address

Example:

Office of National Drug Control Policy - Drug Facts. (n.d.). *Office of National Drug Control Policy*. Retrieved November 19, 2010, from <http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/drugfact/index.html>

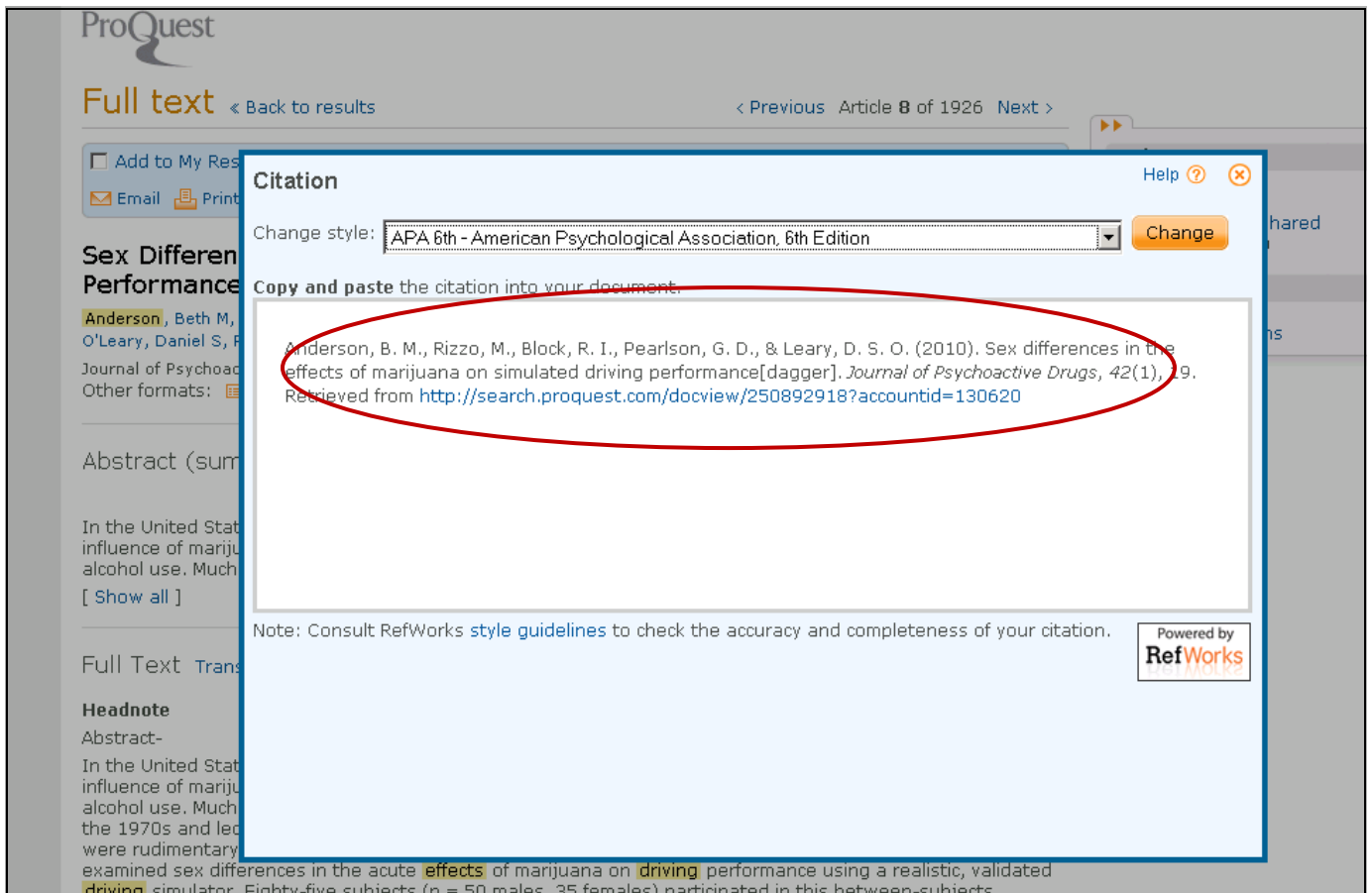
**For additional help citing magazines, websites, and other sources, use the citation generator at <http://www.bibme.org/> **

-To cite **journal articles** in ProQuest, use the “Cite This” feature on the article page.



The screenshot shows the ProQuest interface for an article titled "Sex Differences in the Effects of Marijuana on Simulated Driving Performance[dagger]". The authors listed are Anderson, Beth M, PhD; Rizzo, Matthew; Block, Robert I, PhD; Pearlson, Godfrey D, MD; and O'Leary, Daniel S, PhD. The journal is "Journal of Psychoactive Drugs", volume 42.1, March 2010, pages 19-30. A red circle highlights the "Cite this" button in the toolbar, with a red arrow pointing to it from the top right.

-A window will open with your citation. Cut and Paste the citation into your word document.



The screenshot shows a citation window titled "Citation" overlaid on the article page. The citation style is set to "APA 6th - American Psychological Association, 6th Edition". The citation text is: "Anderson, B. M., Rizzo, M., Block, R. I., Pearlson, G. D., & Leary, D. S. O. (2010). Sex differences in the effects of marijuana on simulated driving performance[dagger]. *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*, 42(1), 19. Retrieved from <http://search.proquest.com/docview/250892918?accountid=130620>". A red circle highlights the citation text.