

ScienceDirect

ScienceDirect is a database containing content related mostly to the sciences, including the health sciences, the physical sciences, and the social sciences. BCTC has access to over 1800 journals within ScienceDirect.

How do I access ScienceDirect?

Go to the Library web site at <http://www.bluegrass.kctcs.edu/library.aspx>

Click on “**Find an Article**”

Scroll down to **ScienceDirect** and click on the link

If accessing from home, you will need to enter your BCTC username and password (same as your college email username/password)

Searching ScienceDirect

Basic search:

You can use the search boxes at the top of the ScienceDirect page for a simple search, or to search for a known journal article. In the results list, items we have will have a green symbol next to them; items that we only have abstracts for will have a grey symbol:

 = Full-text available  = Abstract only

Or, Use the Search Tab (Advanced Search):

Click on the green **Search** tab  at the top of the ScienceDirect page so that you can do a more detailed subject search, limit your search to show just the items the college has, or limit results to a selected date range.

For example:

Terms - Enter your search term(s) in the search boxes— such as: *migraine AND epilepsy*

Select an appropriate field to search (e.g. All Fields, Title, Author, etc)

Source – change the drop-down menu to **Subscribed only** to see only those articles to which the college has full-text access.

Dates – use the drop down window to modify the range of years as desired e.g. *2009 - present*

Then, click on the **Search** button

Results of Your Search

A list of results which contain your search terms will be displayed after you do a search. You can refine your search by using the **Search Within Results** box and adding additional search terms if needed. You can also refine your results by journal title, year, content type or topic.

Under each article in your results list, you usually will see various options:

 [Show preview](#) |  [PDF \(286 K\)](#) | [Related articles](#) | [Related reference work articles](#)

Show Preview: this contains an abstract and article outline, but not the article itself

PDF icon: when available, this is the full text of an article in a format you can view, save or print. Click on the PDF icon to open the article.

To view lists of “related articles” or ‘related reference work articles,” select those links. You can also click on the article title link itself, for other information.

Search Tips

If you select “All Fields” in a ScienceDirect search, you are searching the full text of articles, so you may find that you get some less relevant results at times. If needed, try focusing your search more by restricting to an option such as Keyword, Abstract, or Title.

Use curly braces { } to search for an **exact** phrase. For example: *{global warming}*.

You can combine key words and phrases for a more complex search. For example:
Oceans {global warming} {climate change}

The asterisk * can be used to help find variations of a word. You can use * at the end of a word for different word endings. For example: *genet** (that will pick up genetic, genetics, genetically, etc.)

Browse Option

The **Browse** option allows you to browse journal titles alphabetically or by broad subject area. Click on the green Browse tab at the top of the ScienceDirect page to browse.

The green key in the table next to a title indicates the college has full-text access to those articles. A grey key indicates the college has access to the abstracts of those articles, only.

Clicking on a title will retrieve a list of available volumes/issues. Clicking on an issue will retrieve a table of contents for that issue, with *Preview* and *PDF* formats usually available.

Alerts Option

The *Alerts* features are available to ScienceDirect users who have registered for a personal username and password for ScienceDirect. (Register for a personal username and password by clicking on the “Register” link on the ScienceDirect main page)

When you have performed a search, you can click on *Save as Search Alert* in order to re-run your search on a regular basis (monthly, weekly, daily) and receive an email alert if any new articles matching your search terms have been added to the ScienceDirect database.

You can also set up *Journal Issue Alerts* via the *My Alerts* option and select your favorite ScienceDirect journals. ScienceDirect will then send you an email contents list when a new issue of the journal is added to the database.

You can also select from ScienceDirect’s listing of pre-made *Topic Alerts*, available for a variety of subject areas, such as Computer Science, Mathematics, Nursing, Chemistry, etc.

My Settings

The *My Settings* option is available to ScienceDirect users who have registered for a personal username and password with ScienceDirect. You can add or remove items from your alerts or modify your personal details/preferences.

Favorite Journals

The *Favorite Journals* option is available to ScienceDirect users who have registered for a personal username and password with ScienceDirect. When you are signed in, you can add to your list of favorite journals by selecting the check box for *Favorites* next to a journal name when using the *Browse* function, and then clicking the *Apply* button. Your favorite journals then will appear as links at the bottom of the ScienceDirect main page in the *Quick Links* area.

Need Help?

Search tips and online help are available within ScienceDirect. You can also come to the reference desk at the library for additional help or use the “Ask a Librarian” form on our website.

User guides and online tutorials are available at: <http://help.sciencedirect.com/>

YouTube videos about ScienceDirect can be found at:
<http://www.youtube.com/user/ScienceDirectTV>