

The Beginning Researcher's Quick Start Guide

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What is a dissertation or thesis?

- A dissertation is the final research paper for a doctoral degree.
- A thesis is the final research paper required by many master's degree programs. In some countries thesis can also refer to the doctoral degree paper.

Are they a good source for my undergrad research?

- Yes! Find the newest research on a broad array of topics—often not covered anywhere else—from history, pop culture, the arts, literature, politics, business, education, and STEM.
- Yes! They contain extensive, curated reference lists that can lead you to other articles and books.

STEP 1 Research your unique topic, within a credible source.

HOW?

- Begin with the Keyword Search.
- Click "Full text" or "Doctoral Dissertations only" to limit results.
- Filter by Subject and Publication Date to get the latest titles.

The screenshot shows a search for 'black lives matter' with 968,645 results. It is sorted by Relevance. Under 'Limit to', 'Full text' is selected. A 'Publication date' filter shows a bar chart for the period 1884-2023 (decades). Under 'Subject', several categories are listed with their respective result counts: sociology (40,001), womens studies (38,201), higher education (33,081), and school administration (32,151).



Learn the language!

- Make a list of the new words and definitions.
- Use this terminology in future searches to get super-targeted results.

STEP 2 Find relevant information. No need to read it all.

HOW?

- Click "Abstract/Details" to get a brief description.
- Use the Table of Contents to find relevant chapters.
- Search the Full Text—CTRL 'F' within the PDF.
- Look at Tables and Figures to locate results data.



Be careful with plagiarism!

- All direct quotes must be cited.
- Information can be paraphrased but will still need a citation.

The screenshot shows a PDF viewer displaying a 'Table of Contents' page. The page has a navigation bar at the top with options: 'Full text - PDF', 'Preview - PDF', 'Abstract/Details', and 'References 263'. The Table of Contents lists various sections and their page numbers: List of Tables (iv), List of Figures (v), Chapter 1: Introduction to the Study (1), Introduction (1), Background (1), Problem Statement (9), Purpose of the Study (12), Research Questions (13), Theoretical Framework (13), Nature of the Study (15), and Operational Definitions (16).



STEP 3

Check “References” to find books and articles to build out your bibliography.

HOW?

- A** Click on hyperlinks to go directly to additional references.
- B** Click on “Cited by” to see what articles and books also referenced this dissertation.
- C** See “Foundational Research” to locate more relevant sources.
- D** Use Similar Dissertations to expand your sources within a targeted research path.
- E** Save and curate your references to generate your own bibliography.

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Speech Motor Complexity in Childhood Apraxia of Speech
Case, Julie E. New York University. ProQuest Dissertations Publishing, 2019. 13815309.

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A Model-driven treatment of childhood apraxia of speech: Positive effects of the speech motor learning approach
van der Merwe, Anita; Steyn, Mollie. American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology Vol. 27, Iss. 1, (Feb 2018): 37-51.
Cited by (6) References (59) Abstract/Details Full text Full text - PDF (353 KB)

3. Children's consonant acquisition in 27 languages: A cross-linguistic review
McLeod, Sharynne; Crowe, Kathryn. American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology Vol. 27, Iss. 4, (Nov 2018): 1546-1571.
Cited by (15) References (119) Abstract/Details Full text Full text - PDF (679 KB)

4. Changes in movement transitions across a practice period in childhood apraxia of speech

C Foundational Research on this topic

HOT TIP!

The Treatment Effects of Frequency of Speech Therapy in Early Intervention: A Program Evaluation
Pepe, Danielle. Yeshiva University, ProQuest Dissertations Publishing, 2011.
Cited by 83

D Similar Dissertations

Motor Learning Guided Treatment with Childhood Apraxia of Speech: Cueing & Feedback
Williamson, Sarah. East Carolina University, 2011.

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Perceptual and acoustical comparisons of motor speech practice options for children with childhood apraxia of sp...
Nordness, Amy S. The University of Nebraska - Lincoln, 2011.

The Test of Time: Using Speech Timing Errors to Differentiate Children Without Speech Sound Disorders
Tone, Tori N. Temple University, 2020.

Brief Report: Ages of Language Milestones as Predictors of Developmental Trajectories in Young Children
Kover, Sara T; Edmunds, Sarah R; Ellis Weismer, Susan. Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders, 2016.

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