

Core 110 “Sex and Culture” Reineke

11/8/07

UI Library Web site: www.lib.uidaho.edu

Librarian: Diane Prorak, prorak@uidaho.edu

Finding Book Reviews using Library Databases

All the databases below are found by clicking on **Find Articles** in the center of the Library web page. For some of them, go to the alphabetical title list to find the link.

Your goal today is to choose a children’s book for your use, and try to find relevant reviews or related articles (e.g. about the author) and EMAIL them to yourself.

1. **Book Review Digest Plus and Retrospective** (can be searched together).
 - a. Check box before database name before searching.
 - b. Usually the best way to search is to put the author’s last name in one box and a couple “key words” from the title in another. Then click “start”.
 - c. In the results, reviews will be listed from different publications, often under one entry. Click on the publication name link to get to that specific review citation. Choose those with “excerpts” as your first choice. You will then see at least part of the review. If needed, click on ArticleLinker from the excerpt screen to see if you can get the full article.
 - d. If you get a full text review, use the email link to send it.
2. **Novelist Public Library Edition**
 - a. Usually you will want to change the search pulldown to “title.” You need to search with the exact title (not keywords).
 - b. If you find an entry for your book, there should be some review excerpts as well as award listings, related resources.
 - c. Email the information to yourself.
3. **EbscoSearch:**
 - a. In the Find box, type in the author’s last name, key words from the title, and the word **review*** (The asterisk will retrieve the plural also).
 - b. Look at the result list for relevant, full text reviews. You may need to click on ArticleLinker to see if it is available in full text.
 - c. If you don’t find reviews on the first try, try just searching the title or author’s first and last name.
 - d. Add relevant ones to a folder and email them to yourself.
4. **LexisNexis**
 - a. Type the author’s last name, some key words from the title and the word **review** in the search box.
 - b. Change the SPECIFY DATE pulldown to **ALL AVAILABLE DATES**.
 - c. If you don’t find good reviews, change your search as described above in EbscoSearch. All of these are full text.
 - d. Email relevant reviews to yourself.

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5. **Book Index with Reviews** and **Book Review Index** are also available but are a little less user friendly. I would use these if you didn't find enough using the sources above.
- a. Book Index with Reviews:
 - i. Usually search by author's last name and title keywords.
 - ii. Click on the result title for more information about the book.
 - iii. Look for reviews on the next screen or a link that says Reviews for all Editions.
 - b. Book Review Index
 - i. Click on the link for "Advanced Search"
 - ii. Type the author's last name in one box and key words from the title in another.
 - iii. Results usually don't include any links to full text. You have to look up the periodical titles in the *Magazine and Journal Title List* to see if we have the magazine and date you need available.