

# Searching the literature

A short guide to computer searching

# Searching the Literature

- Science does not occur in a vacuum
  - Current research reflects the contributions of previous studies
  - “I can see so far only because I stand on the shoulders of giants” (Newton)
- Published results have been reviewed by peers and judged to make significant contributions

# Searching the Literature

- Read current articles in reputable journals
- Search for articles based upon keywords in their abstracts (PsychInfo)
- Search for articles based upon the previous work they cite (Social Science Citation Index as found in Web of Science or following cited by in psych info)

# Multiple sources are available

## I. Searching books

A. limited current but of historical interest

B. Many references are irrelevant

## II. Searching journal articles

# Journals

- Not all journals are equal
  - Quality of peer review
  - Breadth of distribution
- General APA, APS journals
  - Psychological Review
  - Psychological Bulletin
  - Psychological Science
- Field specific
  - Journal of Personality and Social Psychology
  - Journal of Experimental Psychology

# Personality Journals

- General
  - Annual Review of Psychology
  - Psychological Review
  - Psychological Bulletin
  - Psychological Science
- Personality Specific
  - Journal of Personality and Social Psychology
  - Journal of Personality
  - Journal of Research in Personality
  - Personality and Individual Differences
  - European Journal of Personality

# research guides


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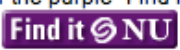


Search


(search results open in a new window)

 **Accessing Full Text**


Some article databases provide full text while most only provide references to articles.

Look out for the purple "Find it @ NU" button  among your database search results.

Click on the button to see if Northwestern provides full text access to the article via one of our electronic journal packages.

 **Key Resources**

- [PsycINFO](#)  
Index to the professional and academic literature in psychology and related disciplines. Covers 1860-present.
- [Annual Review of Psychology](#)  
Annual edited volume of articles demonstrating the current trends in research and inquiry in the field of psychology. Online version covers 1950-present.
- [Web of Science](#)  
Provides access to the Science Citation Index, Social Sciences Citation Index, and Arts & Humanities Citation Index. Covers 1945-present. Also includes the Conference Proceedings Citation Index-Science (1990-present).
- [Social Science Abstracts \(Wilson\)](#)  
Index to international, English-language periodicals in the social sciences, including sociology, anthropology, geography, economics, political science, and law. Some records include full-text links. Covers 1983-present.
- [PsycEXTRA](#)  
Companion to the PsycINFO database. PsycEXTRA covers technical, annual and government reports, conference papers, newsletters, magazines, newspapers, consumer brochures, and more not found in other databases. Covers mostly back to the 1940s, with some earlier material.

 **Related Resources**

- [PsycARTICLES](#)  
Definitive source of full-text, peer-reviewed scholarly and scientific articles in psychology published by the APA and allied organizations. Think of this as a full-text subset of what you'd find in PsycINFO. Covers 1894-present.

**Your Librarian**



**John Hernandez**

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Searching: **PsycINFO** | [Choose Databases >](#)

personality and arousal   ?

[Search Options](#) | [Basic Search](#) | [Advanced Search](#) | [Visual Search](#) | [Search History/Alerts](#) | [Preferences >](#)

Search Options

Search modes ?

- Boolean/Phrase
- Find all my search terms
- Find any of my search terms
- SmartText Searching [Hint](#)

Apply related words

Also search within the full text of the articles

Limit your results

Linked Full Text

Publication Name

Peer Reviewed

English

Population Group

- All
- Human
- Animal
- Male

References Available

Publication Year from

to

Published Date from

Month:  Year:  to Month:  Year:

Publication Type

- All
- All Journals
- Peer Reviewed Journal
- Peer-Reviewed Status-Unknown

Age Groups

- All
- Childhood (birth-12 yrs)
- Neonatal (birth-1 mo)
- Infancy (2-23 mo)

Intended Audience

- All
- General Public
- Juvenile
- Psychology: Professional & Research



# Boolean Search

I. George Boole (1815-1864) and symbolic logic

A. Intersections and Unions

B. AND (intersection) (+)

C. NOT (-)

D. OR (union)



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personality and arousal

Search

Clear



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too many - narrow the search

Narrow Results by

Source Types

All Results

All Journals

Peer Reviewed Journals

Books/Monographs

Dissertation Abstracts

Electronic Collections

Subject: Major Heading

Physiological Arousal

Emotional States

Individual Differences

Personality Traits

Anxiety

Emotional Responses

[More >>](#)

Subject

Publication

Age

Gender

Publication Type

Results: 1-20 of 3208 Page: 1 2 3 4 5 Next

Sort by: Date Desc

Results for: personality and arousal

Search Mode: Boolean/Phrase

1. [Trait dominance predicts risk-taking.](#)   
Demaree, Heath A.; DeDonno, Michael A.; Burns, Kevin J.; Feldman, Pavel; Everhart, D. Erik; *Personality and Individual Differences*, 2009. pp. 419-422. [Journal Article]

Database: PsycINFO

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2. [Individual differences in performance, workload, and stress in sustained attention: Optimism and pessimism.](#)   
Szalma, James L.; *Personality and Individual Differences*, Vol 47(5), Oct, 2009. pp. 444-451. [Journal Article]

Database: PsycINFO

[Add to folder](#) | [Cited References: \(19\)](#)

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3. [Individual differences in core affect reactivity.](#)   
Timmermans, Tinneke; Van Mechelen, Iven; Nezlek, John B.; *Personality and Individual Differences*, Vol 47(5), Oct, 2009. pp. 5

Database: PsycINFO

[Add to folder](#) | [Cited References: \(29\)](#)





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4. [Anxiety disorders comorbidity in first-episode depressed patients: Personality differences based on the Temperament and C](#)   
Minaya, Omar; Fresán, Ana; *Personality and Individual Differences*, Vol 47(5), Oct, 2009. pp. 522-526. [Journal Article]

Database: PsycINFO

[Add to folder](#) | [Cited References: \(59\)](#)

# Show the search history

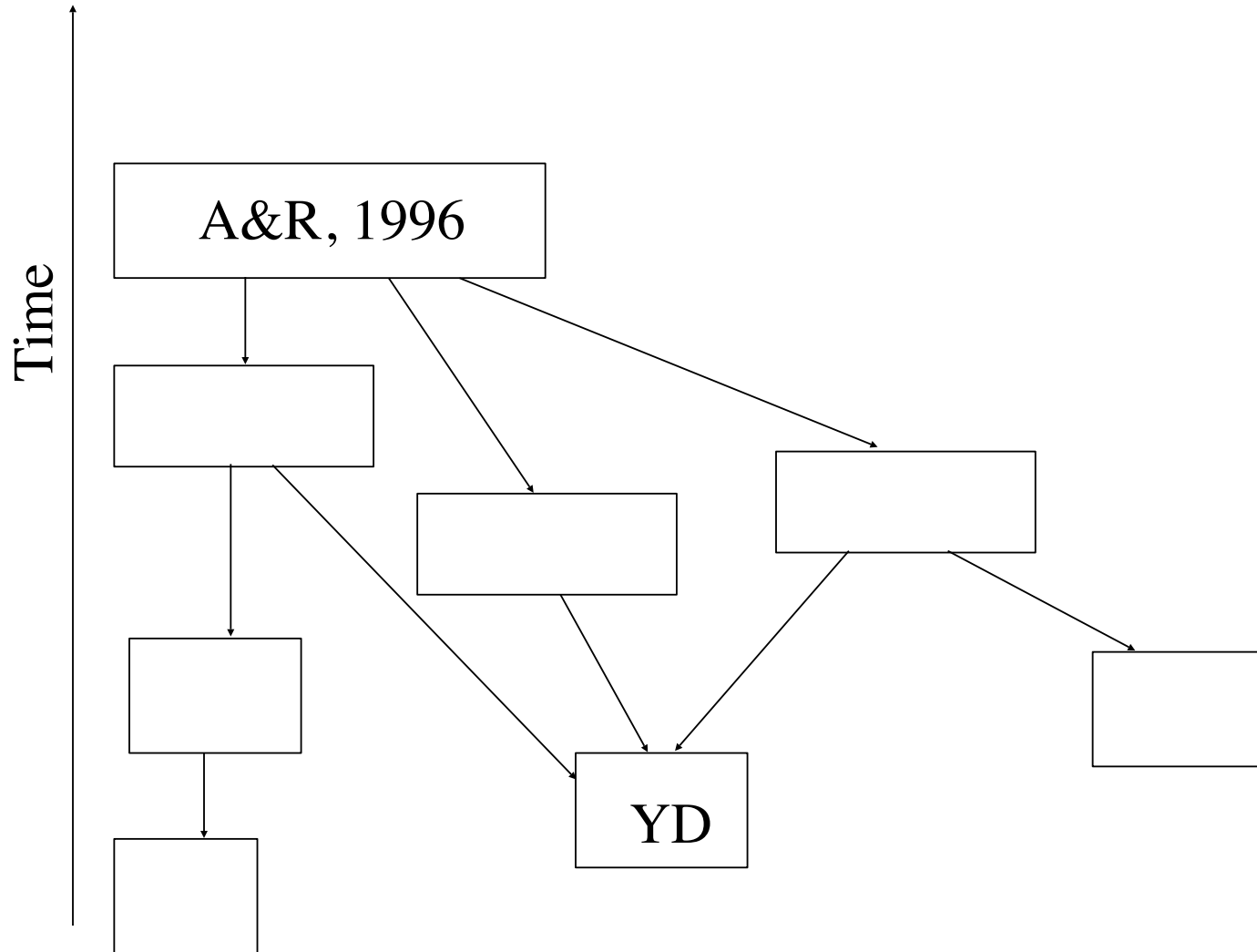
Search History/Alerts				
<a href="#">Print Search History</a>   <a href="#">Retrieve Searches</a>   <a href="#">Retrieve Alerts</a>   <a href="#">Save Searches / Alerts</a>				
<input type="checkbox"/> Select / deselect all <input type="button" value="Search with AND"/> <input type="button" value="Search with OR"/> <input type="button" value="Delete Searches"/> <input type="button" value="Refresh Search Results"/>				
	Search ID#	Search Terms	Search Options	Actions
<input type="checkbox"/>	S4	 personality and arousal	<b>Narrow by SubjectMajor:</b> - Personality <b>Narrow by SubjectMajor:</b> - Individual Differences <b>Search modes</b> - Boolean/Phrase	<a href="#">View Results</a> (15) <a href="#">Revise Search</a> <a href="#">View Details</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	S3	 personality and arousal	<b>Narrow by SubjectMajor:</b> - Individual Differences <b>Search modes</b> - Boolean/Phrase	<a href="#">View Results</a> (117) <a href="#">Revise Search</a> <a href="#">View Details</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	S2	 personality and arousal	<b>Search modes</b> - Boolean/Phrase	<a href="#">View Results</a> (3208) <a href="#">Revise Search</a> <a href="#">View Details</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	S1	 personality and arousal	<b>Search modes</b> - Boolean/Phrase	<a href="#">View Results</a> (3208) <a href="#">Revise Search</a> <a href="#">View Details</a>

# Example of Psych Info






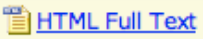


Find references to personality, arousal, and cognitive performance



	Search Term	Number of Hits
1	Physiological Arousal	12928
2	Personality	131460
4	1 and 2	1261
6	Cognition	4807
8	Memory	22443
9	1 and 8	288
10	9 and 2	24

# Literature searching by articles



# Scroll through titles

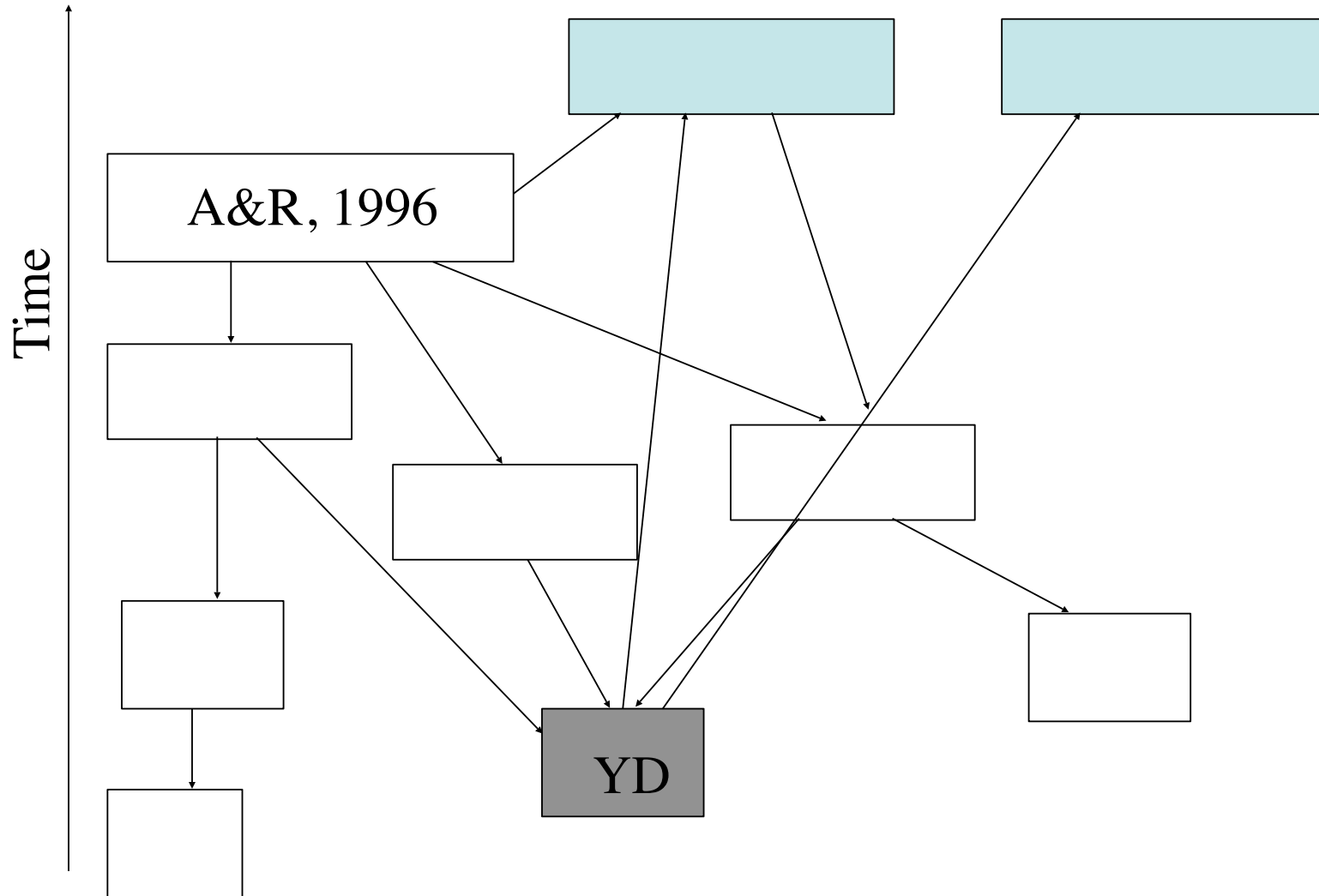
8. [Intelligence and temperament.](#)   
Neçka, Edward; *In: Models of intelligence: International perspectives.* Sternberg, Robert J. (Ed.); Lautrey, Jacques (Ed.); Lubart, Todd I. (Ed.); Washington, DC, US: American Psychological Association, 2003. pp. 293-309. [Chapter]  
Database: PsycINFO  
 [Add to folder](#) | [Cited References: \(56\)](#)  

9. [Why Do Stressors Impair Performance?](#)   
Eysenck, Michael W.; *PsycCRITIQUES*, Vol 47 (6), Dec, 2002. pp. 667-669. [Review-Book]  
Database: PsycINFO  
 [Add to folder](#) | [Cited References: \(2\)](#)  

10. [Temperament and the reactions to unfamiliarity.](#)   
Kagan, Jerome; *Child Development*, Vol 68(1), Feb, 1997. pp. 139-143. [Journal Article]  
Database: PsycINFO  
 [Add to folder](#) | [Times Cited in this Database: \(178\)](#)  

11. [Moods as sources of stimulation: Relationships between personality and desired mood states.](#)   
Rusting, Cheryl L.; Larsen, Randy J.; *Personality and Individual Differences*, Vol 18(3), Mar, 1995. pp. 321-329. [Journal Article]  
Database: PsycINFO  
 [Add to folder](#) | [Times Cited in this Database: \(24\)](#)  


Reference links

citation links

# Literature searching by citations



# Citation links bring us back to current papers



Citing Articles for:

[Moods as sources of stimulation: Relationships between personality and desired mood states.](#)

[Original Results](#)




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Citing Articles Related Records

1-20 of 24 Page: 1 [2](#) [Next](#)

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These records cite the article shown above.

- [What you wish is what you get? The meaning of individual variability in desired affect and affective discrepancy.](#)   
Kämpfe, Nicole; Mitte, Kristin; Journal of Research in Personality, Vol 43(3), Jun, 2009. pp. 409-418. [Journal Article]  
Database: PsycINFO  
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- [Psychometric properties of the Affect Intensity and Reactivity Measure adapted for Youth \(AIR-Y\).](#)   
Jones, Rachel E.; Leen-Feldner, Ellen W.; Olatunji, Bunmi O.; Reardon, Laura E.; Hawks, Erin; Psychological Assessment, Vol 21(2), Jun, 2009. pp. 162-175. [Journal Article]  
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[HTML Full Text](#) | [PDF Full Text](#)
- [Differential preferences for happiness: Extraversion and trait-consistent emotion regulation.](#)   
Tamir, Maya; Journal of Personality, Vol 77(2), Apr, 2009. pp. 447-470. [Journal Article]  
Database: PsycINFO  
[Add to folder](#) | [Cited References: \(43\)](#)  
[Find it @ NU](#)

whom do they cite?

What is the abstract?



# The abstract

<b>Title:</b>	<b>Differential preferences for happiness: Extraversion and trait-consistent emotion regulation.</b>
<b>Authors:</b>	<a href="#">Tamir, Maya</a> , Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA, US, <a href="mailto:tamirm@bc.edu">tamirm@bc.edu</a>
<b>Address:</b>	Tamir, Maya, Department of Psychology, Boston College, 140 Commonwealth Ave., Chestnut Hill, MA, US, 02467, <a href="mailto:tamirm@bc.edu">tamirm@bc.edu</a>
<b>Source:</b>	<a href="#">Journal of Personality</a> , Vol 77(2), Apr, 2009. pp. 447-470.
<b>Publisher:</b>	United Kingdom: Wiley-Blackwell Publishing Ltd..
<b>Other Journal Titles:</b>	Character & Personality; A Quarterly for Psychodiagnostic & Allied Studies
<b>Other Publishers:</b>	United Kingdom: Blackwell Publishing
<b>ISSN:</b>	0022-3506 (Print) 1467-6494 (Electronic)
<b>Language:</b>	English
<b>Keywords:</b>	happiness; trait extraversion; emotion regulation
<b>Abstract:</b>	<p>The assumption that everyone wants to be happy is prevalent among psychologists and laypeople alike. The present investigation suggests that motives for happiness are not consistent across individuals or contexts. Three studies demonstrate that preferences for happiness vary as a function of trait extraversion and situational demands. When anticipating an effortful task that requires increased motivational engagement, individuals demonstrated trait-consistent emotional preferences. Extraverts were more likely to prefer happiness-inducing activities, whereas introverts were less likely to prefer such activities. These differential motives were specific to preferences for happiness compared to other emotions and independent of concurrent feelings. Overall, the present findings suggest that individuals low (vs. high) in extraversion may be less motivated to increase their happiness in effortful contexts. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2009 APA, all rights reserved) (from the journal abstract)</p>
<b>Subjects:</b>	* <a href="#">Emotional Regulation</a> ; * <a href="#">Extraversion</a> ; * <a href="#">Happiness</a>

# Save the abstract for your reference notes



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# Bibliographic management

## I. Commercial bibliographic managers

A. Endnote (free to NU students)

## II. Open source bibliographic managers

A. BibTeX (BibDesk is the Mac implementation)

# Bibliographic management

- I. For short papers/projects just copy the citation information
- II. For longer term projects it is worth building up a data base using EndNote or BibTeX.

First Author	Cite Key	Year	Title	Dat	BibTeX Type	Second Author	Third Author
Surault, F.	Surault:1831it	1831	An easy grammar of the French language, for youn...		book		
Swami, V.	<a href="http://dx.doi.org/...">http://dx.doi.org/...</a>	2008	The influence of men's sexual strategies on percep...		article	Miller, R.	Furnham, A.
Swickert, R. J.	swickert:gilliland:98	1998	Relationship between the brainstem auditory evok...		article	Gilliland, K.	
Swickert, R.	Swickert:1998ax	1998	Relationship between the brainstem auditory evok...		article	Gilliland, K.	
Tackett, J. L.	<a href="http://dx.doi.org/...">http://dx.doi.org/...</a>	2008	A dimensional model of personality disorder: Incor...		article	Silberschm...	Krueger, R. F.
Tamir, M.	tamir:09	2009	Differential preferences for happiness: Extraversio...		article		
Tamir, M.	tamiretal:02	2002	The epistemic benefits of trait-consistent mood st...		article	Robinson, ...	Clore, G. L.
Tang, T. Z.	tang:99	1999	Sudden gains and critical sessions in cognitive-be...		article	DeRubeis, ...	
Tang, T. Z.	tang:07	2007	Sudden gains in cognitive therapy of depression a...		article	DeRubeis, ...	Hollon, S. D.
Tataryn, D. J.	<a href="http://dx.doi.org/...">http://dx.doi.org/...</a>	1999	Setting the value of k in promax: A Monte Carlo study		article	Wood, J. M.	Gorsuch, R. L.
Tellegen, A.	tellegen:82	1982	Brief Manual for the Differential Personality Questi...		misc		
Tellegen, A.	tellegen:85	1985	Structures of mood and personality and their relev...		incollection		
Tellegen, A.	tellegenetal:88	1988	Personality similarity in twins reared apart and together		article	Lykken, D. T.	Bouchard, T. J.
Tellegen, A.	<a href="http://dx.doi.org/...">http://dx.doi.org/...</a>	1982	Recognizing individual differences in predictive str...		article	Kamp, J.	Watson, D.
Tellegen, A.	<a href="http://dx.doi.org/...">http://dx.doi.org/...</a>	1999	Further support for a hierarchical model of affect: ...		article	Watson, D.	Clark, L. A.

tamir:09

***Differential preferences for happiness: Extraversion and trait-consistent emotion regulation.*** (article)

**Author**

Tamir, Maya

**Journal**

Journal of Personality

**Year**

2009

**Volume**

77

**Number**

2

**Pages**

447 - 470

**Keywords**

happiness, trait extraversion, emotion regulation, Emotional Regulation, Extraversion, Happiness

**Abstract**

The assumption that everyone wants to be happy is prevalent among psychologists and laypeople alike. The present investigation suggests that motives for happiness are not consistent across individuals or contexts. Three studies demonstrate that preferences for happiness vary as a function of trait extraversion and situational demands. When anticipating an effortful task that requires increased motivational engagement, individuals demonstrated trait-consistent emotional preferences. Extraverts were more likely to prefer happiness-inducing activities, whereas introverts were less likely to prefer such activities. These differential motives were specific to preferences for happiness compared to other emotions and independent of concurrent feelings. Overall, the present findings suggest that individuals low (vs. high) in extraversion may be less motivated to increase their happiness in effortful contexts. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2009 APA, all rights reserved) (from the journal abstract)

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0022-3506

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# Paper 2

- I. Before doing the experiment, read some of the literature
- II. Develop a hypothesis (or two)
- III. Think about a good design
- IV. Do the study
- V. Analyze the data

# Additional comments

Stylistic considerations

general style of writing

specific requirements

partially meant for the ease of editing

margins and spacing

levels of headings

running heads

# General style considerations

## Overall

Write for the intelligent but uninformed reader

Remember what is important in each paragraph and each section.

Topic sentences should be able to stand by themselves

## Minor comments

complete sentences

no unnecessary words

Proofread -- spelling and punctuation!

remember: tense

data are plural!



# Guides to writing an APA paper

- APA manual of style - The official reference
- Leary (Chapter 15) detailed example
- Plonsky “cheat sheet” to the APA paper  
– <http://www.uwsp.edu/psych/apa4b.htm>
- Also possible to use sophisticated typesetting language: LaTeX with the apa.cls style sheet  
– see <http://personality-project.org/revelle/syllabi/205/apa.style.html>

# LaTeX: a brief overview- optional

- Author's emphasis should be upon content not format
  - let the author write
  - let the computer do the formatting
- TeX originally developed by Donald Knuth, LaTeX by Leslie Lamport as add on to TeX
- Available as free software from [latex-project.org](http://latex-project.org)
- For a brief tutorial on APA style and LaTeX see
  - <http://personality-project.org/revelle/syllabi/205/apa.style.html> (linked on the 371 syllabus)

# LaTeX is a markup language

- LaTeX and HTML (for web) are markup languages and are not WYSIWYG
- Initially harder to use than WYSIWYG programs such as Word or OpenOffice
- Allow user great control over what the document will look like (if desired) or can do complex formatting without much thought.

# LaTeX structure

- Commands are preceded by `\`
  - and sometimes followed by `{}`
  - `\section{This is a section heading}`
  - `%` comments are preceded by `%` and are ignored
- Structure of a document is
  - Preamble (what packages to include, who you are, what type of output you desire)
  - Content (perhaps broken into sections, perhaps including tables and figures)
  - End materials

# Structure of Latex Document: example template

```
\documentclass[man]{apa}%can be jou (for journal), man (manuscript) or doc (document)
\usepackage{url} %this allows us to cite URLs in the text
\usepackage{graphicx} %allows for graphic to float when doing jou or doc style
\usepackage{amssymb} %use formatting tools for math symbols
\title{A basic apa style paper}
\author{Your Name}
\affiliation{Department of Psychology \ \ Northwestern University}
%\date{} % Activate to display a given date or no date
\abstract{Some 100 clever words, but in complete sentences.}
\begin{document}
\maketitle
%\section{}
An introduction should be interesting and could include a reference \cite{rev:ea07}
\section{Methods}
Allow someone to do the study again
\section{Results}
What did you find -- say it in words, numbers and then stats \ \
a Table could go here
\section{Discussion}
What does it mean? Make it interesting. Perhaps point out how the literature supports this result \cite{killeen}
\bibliography{examplebib} %allows for bibliographic material to be automatically formatted
\end{document}
```

# Latex: manuscript format

A basic apa style paper 1

Running head: A BASIC APA STYLE PAPER

A basic apa style paper

Your Name

Department of Psychology

Northwestern University

# Latex: Manuscript p 2

A basic apa style paper 2

## Abstract

Some 100 clever words, but in complete sentences.

# Latex: APA manuscript p 3

A basic apa style paper 3

## A basic apa style paper

An introduction should be interesting and could include a reference (Revelle, 2007).

### Methods

Allow someone to do the study again.

### Results

What did you find – say it in words, numbers and then stats.

a Table could go here.

### Discussion

What does it mean? Make it interesting. Perhaps point out how the literature supports this result (Killeen, 2005).



# LaTeX: apa page 4

A basic apa style paper 4

## References

Killeen, P. (2005). An alternative to null-hypothesis significance tests. *Psychological*

*Science*, *16*, 345-353.

Revelle, W. (2007). Experimental approaches to the study of personality. In R. Robins,

R. C. Fraley, & R. F. Krueger (Eds.), *Handbook of research methods in personality psychology*. New York: Guilford.

# Latex: typeset as journal

## A basic apa style paper

Your Name  
Department of Psychology  
Northwestern University

Some 100 clever words, but in complete sentences.

An introduction should be interesting and could include a reference (Revelle, 2007).

### Methods

Allow someone to do the study again.

### Results

What did you find – say it in words, numbers and then stats.  
a Table could go here.

### Discussion

What does it mean? Make it interesting. Perhaps point out how the literature supports this result (Killeen, 2005).

### References

- Killeen, P. (2005). An alternative to null-hypothesis significance tests. *Psychological Science, 16*, 345-353.
- Revelle, W. (2007). Experimental approaches to the study of personality. In R. Robins, R. C. Fraley, & R. F. Krueger (Eds.), *Handbook of research methods in personality psychology*. New York: Guilford.