

Library Instruction for Students in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology: Which Databases should be Covered?



Purpose

- 1) To determine which databases are commonly recommended for students in speech-language pathology (SLP) and audiology programs
- 2) To compare journal indexing in those databases to decide which ones should be prioritized when teaching "one-shot" sessions

**Table 1
Libguides Consulted***

University of Iowa
University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill
University of Washington
University of Texas - Dallas
Northwestern University
Purdue
University of Florida
University of South Florida
Arizona State University
University of Maryland – College Park

*List created from schools which:
 • appeared in the top 20 of US News and World Report Top Ranked Audiology¹ OR Speech-Language-Pathology² Programs
 • also had a libguide for communication disorders, communication science, audiology, hearing, or speech plus hearing, language, or pathology

**Table 2
Databases listed on at least 8 libguides****

Databases listed on at least 8 libguides**	Times listed
PubMed and/or Medline	10
Linguistics & Language Behavior Abstracts	10
ERIC	9
PsycINFO	9
Web of Science/Knowledge	9
CINAHL	8

**There were 42 databases/resource collections mentioned on the 10 libguides, 50% (21) were listed on only one libguide

**Table 3
Core Titles*****

Core Titles (cont.)	Core Titles (cont.)
1. <i>Brain & Language</i>	18. <i>American Journal of Audiology</i>
2. <i>Ear & Hearing</i>	19. <i>Language & Speech</i>
3. <i>Hearing Research</i>	20. <i>Clinical Linguistics & Phonetics</i>
4. <i>American Journal of Speech Language Pathology</i>	21. <i>Phonetica</i>
5. <i>Audiology Neuro-Otology</i>	22. <i>Logopedics, Phoniatrics, Vocology</i>
6. <i>Journal of Fluency Disorders</i>	23. <i>Journal of Voice</i>
7. <i>Journal of Speech, Language, & Hearing Research</i>	24. <i>Language, Speech, and Hearing Services in Schools</i>
8. <i>Noise & Health</i>	25. <i>Aphasiology</i>
9. <i>Journal of the Acoustical Society of America</i>	26. <i>Seminars in Speech and Language</i>
10. <i>International Journal of Audiology</i>	27. <i>Topics in Language Disorders</i>
11. <i>Journal of the American Academy of Audiology</i>	28. <i>Brain Impairment</i>
12. <i>Journal of Communication Disorders</i>	29. <i>Evidence-Based Communication Assessment and Intervention</i>
13. <i>International Journal of Language & Communication Disorders</i>	30. <i>Canadian Journal of Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology</i>
14. <i>AAC: Augmentative and Alternative Communication</i>	31. <i>Communication Disorders Quarterly</i>
15. <i>International Journal of Speech-Language Pathology</i>	32. <i>Jornal da Sociedade Brasileira de Fonoaudiologia</i>
16. <i>Trends in Amplification</i>	33. <i>Revista de Logopedia, Foniatria y Audiologia</i>
17. <i>Folia Phoniatica et Logopaedica</i>	34. <i>Les Cahiers de l'Audition</i>

***Core titles selected from Journal Citation Reports (Audiology & Speech-Language Pathology)³, SCImago Journal & Country Rank (Health Professions -- Speech and Hearing)⁴ and Google Scholar Metrics (Health & Medical Sciences -- Audiology, Speech & Language Pathology)⁵

Methodology

- Libguides of top-ranked audiology and SLP programs were examined (see table 1) to develop a list of recommended databases. (see table 2)
- Journal Citation Reports, SCImago Journal Rankings, and Google Scholar Top Publications were used to create a list of core journals in the subject area. (See table 3)
- Each of the identified databases was checked for indexing of core journals (see table 4); the resulting spreadsheet was analyzed to determine which database or combination of databases offered the most complete coverage of core journals.

**Table 4
Number of core journals indexed in database******

Number of core journals indexed in database****	Database
28	Web of Knowledge/Science (all indexes)
26	Medline/PubMed
25	PsycINFO
24	CINAHL
23	Linguistics & Language Behavior Abstracts
11	ERIC

References:

1. Best Grad Schools [Internet]. U.S. News & World Report; c2014. Audiology; 2012 [cited 10/16/2014]. Available from: <http://grad-schools.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/best-graduate-schools/top-health-schools/audiology-rankings>
2. Best Grad Schools [Internet]. U.S. News & World Report; c2014. Speech-Language Pathology; 2012 [cited 10/16/2014]. Available from: <http://grad-schools.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/best-graduate-schools/top-health-schools/pathology-rankings>
3. 2012 Journal Citation Reports® [Internet]. Thomson Reuters [cited 10/16/2014].
4. SJR SCImago Journal & Country Rank [Internet]. Journal Rankings 2011. [2011; cited 10/16/2014]; Available from: http://www.scimagojr.com/journalrank.php?area=3600&category=3616&country=all&http://www.scimagojr.com/journalrank.php?area=3600&category=3616&country=all&year=2011&order=sjr&min=0&min_type=cd
5. Google Scholar [Internet]. Top Publications – Audiology, Speech & Language Pathology. [cited 10/16/2014]; Available from: http://scholar.google.com/citations?view_op=top_venues&hl=en&vq=med_audiology&spechlanguagepathology

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Results:

- Six recommended databases were identified
- 34 core journals were identified
- One journal (*Les Cahiers de l'Audition*) was not indexed in any of the databases
- No single database indexed all of the remaining 33 titles
- Web of Science included the most titles (28) but only if all sections (Science Citation Index, Science Citation Index Expanded and Social Sciences Citation Index) are available
- PubMed/Medline was second with 26 titles
- Indexing for 32 of 33 titles is available in two different database combinations
 - 1) PubMed/Medline and PsycINFO
 - 2) Web of Science (all sections) and Linguistics and Language Behavior Abstracts.

Conclusion:

A multi-session library instruction class might be able to cover the use of most or all of the six identified databases but many librarians are limited to one session with students and need to limit the number of new resources taught. This study found two database groupings which offer indexing for 32 of 33 core journals. Librarians can use information from this study together with institution-specific factors to decide which databases to prioritize in instruction sessions for speech-language pathology and audiology students.