Topics in PsycINFO of Relevance to Computers & the Internet

PsycINFO is a research database published by the American Psychological Association. Researchers from a wide variety of fields can use it to learn more about how computers, mobile devices and the internet come into play in their area of study.

Sample Searches on Computers & the Internet

Scenario: A student is writing a term paper on social networks and would like to find some studies on how the internet impacts friendships.

Search: (Internet Usage OR Online Social Networks) AND (Intimacy OR Interpersonal Relationships)

Results: Studies examining how and why people use the internet to interact with others, with a wide variety of foci including attachment style, communication patterns, and relationship development.

Scenario: An education researcher is interested exploring how much students learn in online courses.

Search: Learning AND (Virtual Classrooms OR Learning Management Systems)

Results: Studies that look at various aspects of courses with technological components, including student learning, teacher perceptions, and classroom management. Includes many dissertations.

Scenario: A human resources manager has been tasked with finding out how a proposed telecommuting policy may impact managers of employees who choose to work remotely.

Search: (Telecommuting OR Virtual Teams) AND Management Personnel

Results: Journal articles exploring supervisor attitudes towards remote workers, management methods for virtual and blended teams, and more.
Selected Search Terms

The search terms provided here are just a few excerpts from the many relevant terms in PsycINFO’s thesaurus. If you aren’t sure how to use these terms (called Subject Terms, Subject Headings, or Index Terms depending on your interface), check with your librarian or consult the PsycINFO Quick Reference Guide you may also have received at the same time as this handout.

### Computers
- Computer Applications
- Computer Games
- Computer Peripheral Devices
- Computer Programming
- Computer Simulation
- Computer Software
- Groupware
- Keyboards
- Microcomputers
- Mobile Devices

### Health & Medicine
- Artificial Neural Networks
- Computational Neuroscience
- Computer Assisted Diagnosis
- Computer Assisted Therapy
- Online Therapy
- Telemedicine

### Education
- Computer Literacy
- Distance Education
- Information Literacy
- Learning Management Systems
- Virtual Classrooms

### Computer Usage
- Computer Anxiety
- Computer Attitudes
- Cyberbullying
- Internet Usage
- Internet Addiction

### Information Technology
- Artificial Intelligence
- Computer Science
- Data Mining
- Information Science
- Information Systems

### Workplace Technology
- Automation
- Telecommuting
- Teleconferencing
- Virtual Teams
- Word Processing

### Internet
- Computer Mediated Communication
- Digital Divide
- Electronic Commerce
- Electronic Communication
- Hypermedia
- Hypertext
- Mass Media
- Online Social Networks
- Social Media
- Websites