**Sample Searches in Religion and Spirituality**

**Scenario:** A counselor in a residential treatment center is interested in learning more about the relevance of clients’ spiritual beliefs to substance abuse treatment.

**Search:** Spirituality AND Drug Rehabilitation

**Results:** Book chapters and articles on the relationship between spirituality and recovery in numerous religious and cultural traditions, including measures of recovery.

**Scenario:** A pastoral counselor wants to examine the role of spirituality in helping older adults cope with the loss of a spouse.

**Search:** Grief AND Spirituality; use the Age Group limiter to select Aged (65 yrs & older)

**Results:** Articles on how people use religious and secular strategies to cope with death, religion and spirituality affect death attitudes, and the role spiritual beliefs play in mental well-being.

**Scenario:** A counseling psychologist working with international college students is looking for research on how stereotypes about religion might cause discrimination.

**Search:** Religious Prejudices AND specific group or groups (for example, Mormons, Muslims)

**Results:** Articles on religious affiliation-based stress; Islamophobia, Anti-Semitism, and other types of group-based discrimination; and rating scales for attitudes toward various groups.
### 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.

#### Religious Beliefs
- Agnosticism
- Atheism
- God Concepts
- Religiosity
- Religious Affiliation
- Religious Fundamentalism
- Spirituality
- Theology

#### Ethnic Identity
- Acculturation
- Cross Cultural Differences
- Ingroup Outgroup
- Religious Affiliation
- Religious Prejudices
- Self Concept
- Social Identity
- Sociocultural Factors

#### Morality
- Community Involvement
- Hate Crimes
- Human Rights
- Moral Development
- Personal Values
- Prosocial Behavior
- Values
- World View

#### Religious Practices
- Circumcision
- Confession
- Faith Healing
- Mysticism
- Prayer
- Religious Attendance
- Religious Conversion
- Superstitions

#### Life Experiences
- Death and Dying
- Divorce
- Marriage
- Palliative Care
- Parenting
- Rites of Passage
- Same Sex Marriage
- Trauma

#### Religion and Science
- Assisted Suicide
- Bioethics
- Eugenics
- Health Care Seeking Behavior
- Homosexuality (Attitudes Toward)
- Intelligent Design
- Parapsychology
- Stem Cell Research