Hi. This is Pam Sukalski, Librarian at SMSU’s McFarland Library. This video clip will walk through:

1) Getting to the SMSU Library homepage
2) Finding the list of article databases, and
3) Logging into a database from off-campus

Beginning at the SMSU homepage found at www.smsu.edu, we use the drop-down menu under Quick Links to find the Library.

On the Library homepage, there are two ways to get to the article databases:

Under Research Help, you’ll see the link to the A to Z List of Databases.
Also, under the Articles tab in the middle of the screen you can see the A to Z List of Databases.

Take note that the search box that displays on the articles tab is for one database we subscribe to called Academic Search Premier. This is a broad, general topic database.

The A to Z List is an alphabetical list. If you know the name of the database you are interested in, that’s great. If not, there are brief descriptions included to help you determine if a database will be useful to you. Another option is to utilize the Subject Guides found on the Library homepage; they will have recommended databases for each subject area listed. As always, ask a Reference Librarian if need assistance.

As we look at the list of databases, take note of this lock. This lock that is next to many of our database names tells us that you need to authenticate when you are off-campus. That means you need to tell us that you are an SMSU student, faculty or staff member who has access to these databases. Using the shortcuts across the top, I clicked on the N-Z link to get to the Newspapers listing to find the Newsstand database. It has the lock so I’ll need to authenticate. At this point, you’ll type in your 14-digit barcode. This is printed on your Mustang ID card. If you do not have a Mustang ID card, stop down to the Mustang Zone in the Student Center to have one printed. If you have questions about your barcode number, please call the Reference Desk or email a Librarian.

Initially your password is set up to be your last name. And we’ve made it to our search screen of the database called Newsstand.