In this video clip we’ll look at a few ways you can narrow your search results: by Publication Date and by Source Type.

Depending on your assignment, you may find efficiencies in limiting your publication source types. In most cases, you are going to be asked to focus on Academic Journals, so using this limiter is an efficient way to eliminate genre types that won’t meet your assignment parameters. In my example, limiting by the Source Type of Academic Journal reduces my results from 168 to 115.

Opting to use the Publication Date limiter to meet assignment parameters is also useful. Most of the time (unless you are being asked to look for a seminal or landmark study), you’re going to want to be looking at articles published in the last 5-10 years. Again, your faculty will provide those specifics for you. In my example, limiting by the Publication Date of 2013 or newer (that would be five years of publications covered) reduces my results to 28.

So from my initial results of 168, the articles that meet my assignment parameters of being published in an academic journal within the last 5 years left me with 28 results. If I hadn’t used the limiters, I would have been skimming through 140 articles that I couldn’t utilize. This is a good example of how utilizing the limiters made for much more effective search results.