


Which to use -- *LISS*, *LISA* or *INSPEC*?

All three databases are accessible at <http://www.library.uiuc.edu/lis/> and through the Online Journals & Databases search tool off the Library Gateway, <http://sfx.carli.illinois.edu/sfxuiu/az>. Which best serves your research needs? It depends. The coverage of LISS & LISA overlaps but isn't identical. INSPEC is devoted to scientific & technical literature. All three search interfaces, although different in appearance, offer standard options for formulating basic and complex searches, combining search terms, displaying results, and saving, printing and emailing results. All three have searchable thesauri of subject terms. In all three you can create alerts and be notified by email or RSS feed when new content of interest to you is added to the database. All three databases link to full-text articles through “Discover”  buttons.

	LIBRARY & Information Science Source (LISS)	LIBRARY & INFORMATION SCIENCE ABSTRACTS (LISA)	INSPEC as part of Engineering Village
GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE	Emphasis on English-language, American publications, with some publications from other countries.	Emphasis on English-language publications, but contains publications from over 68 countries.	Emphasis on English-language publications, but with strong selection of publications in other languages.
TIME COVERAGE	Indexing back to 1905.	Indexing back to 1969.	Indexing back to 1969.
SUBJECT COVERAGE	Strong coverage of librarianship & the history of library studies, bibliometrics, and information management.	Strong coverage of both librarianship and information science and related fields.	Strong coverage of information technology, human-computer interaction, digital libraries, information retrieval & biomedical content.
HOW MANY PERIODICALS?	Indexes over 1,000 periodical titles.	Indexes over 440 periodicals, some cover-to-cover and others selectively.	Indexes over 5,000 journals and other serial titles.
WHICH PERIODICALS?	List of indexed publications.	List of indexed periodicals.	List of indexed journal titles.
TYPES OF PUBLICATIONS	Covers scholarly journals, professional magazines, books, library school theses, research reports , and proceedings.	Covers scholarly journals, professional magazines, and technical journals.	Covers research journals, conference proceedings, standards and reports.
TYPES OF ARTICLES	Includes feature articles, short news articles, books, reviews, case studies, and more.	Emphasizes feature articles and book reviews.	Includes journal articles, conference articles, dissertations, and more.
FULL TEXT	Contains some full-text articles from over 440 periodicals, as part of the database. Full text to 30 books. Also includes Discover buttons.	Contains no full-text articles as part of the database, but provides it if available through other ProQuest databases that we receive. Includes Discover buttons.	Contains many full-text articles often available as direct downloads. Also includes Discover buttons.
ABSTRACTS	Includes abstracts in newer citations.	Includes abstracts for all citations.	Includes bibliographic citations and indexed abstracts.
CROSS-DATABASE SEARCHING	Can combine search with other EBSCOhost databases, including <i>Education Full Text</i> , <i>Communication Abstracts</i> , and <i>SocINDEX</i> .	Can combine search with other ProQuest databases, including <i>ERIC</i> , and <i>Sociological Abstracts</i> . Can create your own group of favorite databases through “My Research” account.	Can combine with other Elsevier Engineering Village databases such as <i>Compendex</i> and <i>NTIS</i> .
FEATURES & FUNCTIONALITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faceted display of results. • Can access search history from the results page. • Searches can be limited upfront to peer-reviewed articles only. • Translates articles into more than 30 languages. • Text-to-audio. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the search results, peer reviewed articles can be displayed separately. • “Figures & Tables” search option. • Preview articles by mousing over citation. • “Cited by” reference search. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Search history on home page. • Facets can be viewed as charts & made downloadable. • Separate “eBook Search” tab.