Advanced search skills for BSYS803

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Outline today

• Review search tools and strategies
• Databases
• Reference management
• Requesting Resources
• Workshops
Before you start searching (refresher)

- Think about synonyms/similar words or alternative ways of describing your topic

- Use **phrases** e.g. “artificial intelligence”

- Use the **stem of a word/truncation** e.g. child* = child, children, childhood

- Use **Boolean logic**. It useful to understand how databases search.
  
  Example
Adapting your search
To many result ... or not enough?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Narrow</th>
<th>Broaden</th>
<th>Exclude</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Add more terms using AND</td>
<td>• Add similar terms using OR</td>
<td>• Use proximity operators – check database tips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Use proximity searching – check database tips</td>
<td>• Remove phrase searching</td>
<td>• Use limiters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Search within specific fields</td>
<td>• Drop less important terms</td>
<td>• Find terms in the subject field</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Expand your fields to full text search</td>
<td>• Consider different search tools</td>
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<td>• Try additional resources</td>
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</table>
# Boolean logic (refresher)

**Boolean operators:** use AND, OR and NOT to connect your search terms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operator</th>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| AND      | ![Venn Diagram](#) ethics AND globalisation | Use AND to search for articles that contain both your terms.  
*Using AND narrows your search* |
| OR       | ![Venn Diagram](#) toxin OR poison | Use OR to look for articles that contain one or both of the search terms.  
*Using OR broadens your search* |
| NOT      | ![Venn Diagram](#) environment NOT business | Use NOT to search for records which contain the first term and do not contain the second.  
*Note: in some databases the operator is AND NOT* |
Databases

Make sure you are familiar with the databases before you begin your research.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General internet searches</th>
<th>Research focused search engines</th>
<th>Federated searching</th>
<th>Subject specific research databases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Example: Google</td>
<td>Example: Google Scholar</td>
<td>Examples: Library Search, Scopus</td>
<td>Examples: Business Source Complete (EBSCO), IEEE Xplore</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Advantages:**
- Easy to use
- Can access ‘grey’ literature e.g. technical reports
- Easy to use
- Access a wider range of research literature
- In-depth coverage across multiple databases
- Full-text
- Scholarly/peer-reviewed
- In-depth coverage
- Subject specific
- Full-text
- Metrics
- Scholarly/peer-reviewed

**Disadvantages:**
- May not be reliable information
- Too many hits, not all relevant
- Have to pay for articles if not accessed through Library
- Subscription databases - relies on publishers’ platforms and access
- Publisher’s platform and does not include other publishers works
- May have specialist search procedures
Business Source Complete

- Limit your results by date, scholarly/peer reviewed ...
- Auto-suggestions
- Refine by Subject terms
- Use thesaurus
Using the thesaurus
Scopus

An abstract and citation database with links to full-text.

- Scopus is the largest abstract and citation database of peer-reviewed literature
- Includes scientific journals, books and conference proceedings
- Covers science, technology, medicine, social sciences, and arts and humanities
- Scopus features smart tools to track, analyse and visualize research
Scopus continued

Sort by highly cited

Click to see who has cited this article
Includes scholarly/peer-reviewed articles, conference papers and more
The number of results will be greater than a subscription database
Use the advanced search screen
Set your preferences, especially if exporting to EndNote
Check the citations for relevant articles
Check authors profiles (H index?)
Set up alerts
EndNote
http://aut.ac.nz.libguides.com/endnote

It is designed to
• Store and organise references
• Import references from article databases and catalogues
• Instantly generate bibliographies in different referencing styles
• Sync with Word to insert in-text citations and full references directly into assignments
• Support collaboration by making it easy to share references

You still need to know how to reference
• You need a working knowledge of APA (or Chicago/Turabian for Art & Design) to enter references manually or to correct imported references which often have minor errors
Requesting resources

https://library.aut.ac.nz/i-need/an-interlibrary-loan

- **Request it** – for books from other Campuses or if the book is currently checked out
- **Bonus +** - for books from other Universities
- **ArticleReach** – for journal articles
- **Interlibrary loans** – for hard to find books and articles
More workshops

• Referencing
• EndNote (managing your references)
• Webinars
• Writing workshops
• Writing club
• More workshops specifically for postgraduates are run in conjunction with the Graduate Research School
• Browse and register at: https://library.aut.ac.nz/i-need/library-workshops-libcal