Master of Information Technology Project Management

Library research skills and resources

Goals for today's session:

- Awareness of the services and resources available to you
- Identifying good information sources
- Effective searching for relevant information
- Overview of the tools/databases
- Effective information management & referencing

The Library website – useful pages:

- Referencing and APA
- Workshops
- Library Guide – How to ‘Library’>Information on your subject>Computer Science
- Get items from other libraries (InterLibrary Loan) – ArticleReach

Information sources

Understand the context of your research. Review work previous done on your subject. Use credible and reliable sources!
Evaluate the information you find.

**Is it reliable (check the author/publisher), up-to-date and on topic?**

Peer-reviewed journal articles are essential for academic research. They provide:

- Authoritative
- High quality/robust methodology
- Indexed in specialist databases
- Up to date
- International comparison

**Search strategies**

Some problems when searching for information:

- Not finding enough information
- Getting too many results
- Finding information that is not on topic

**Develop a strategy**

- Identify keywords and concepts
- Use search techniques and database features
- Use Boolean operators
- Search appropriate subject databases
- Manage your results - keep a record of where you searched and the keywords

**Keywords and concepts**

- List keywords
- Find synonyms or similar terms for the same thing

**Example**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procure*</th>
<th>“information technology”</th>
<th>“project management”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purchasing</td>
<td>IT</td>
<td>Project*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Truncation** – procure* for procure, procures, procurement

**Phrase search** – “project management” to ensure two or more words are searched together

**Boolean searching – use connectors to join terms together**

1. Procure* OR purchas* - search results contain all hits for procure* or purchas*
2. “information technology” OR IT - search results contain all hits with construction OR building
3. “project management” – search results contain all hits with “project management”

Put them together with AND to get hits with all three sets.

(Procure* OR purchas*) AND (“information technology” OR IT) AND “project management”
AND

Use **AND** to search for articles that contain both your terms.

Using **AND** narrows your search.

OR

Use **OR** to look for articles that contain one or both search terms.

Using **OR** broadens your search.

**Activity:** Note down some search terms you might use for the topic you are considering for your project.

**Searching:**

Try different databases and search engines to find the best tool. You may want to record your searches as you go.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Database</th>
<th>Search</th>
<th>Number of results</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Library Search – scholarly articles from 2015</td>
<td>(Procure* OR purchas*) AND (&quot;information technology&quot; OR IT) AND “project management”</td>
<td>10,262</td>
<td>Need to narrow this with more specific concepts/keywords.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Source Complete</td>
<td>(Procure* OR purchas*) AND (&quot;information technology&quot; OR IT) AND “project management”</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>Narrowed to abstract and keyword. Check keywords in thesaurus for more terms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scopus – articles from 2015</td>
<td>(Procure* OR purchas*) AND (&quot;information technology&quot; OR IT) AND “project management”</td>
<td>92</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Check the Library guide to see which databases might be useful:
[https://aut.ac.nz.libguides.com/engineering_masters](https://aut.ac.nz.libguides.com/engineering_masters)

**Library Search**

Try Library Search and narrow your results. This will give you an idea of which databases might be useful for your searches.
- Limit your results to scholarly (peer reviewed) journals.
- Download articles or select and email them to yourself.

**Google Scholar**
Go to Google Scholar from the Library website to ensure you can access full text for free.

**Scopus**
Scopus is an indexed database of peer-reviewed research. Use Scopus to find quality articles.
Do a search and use the ‘Refine’ features particularly ‘Keyword’.

**Business Source Complete**
This database is good for a business perspective.
Check their thesaurus for terms.

**New Zealand information**
- Australia/New Zealand Reference Centre
- INNZ (Index New Zealand)

**Information not available from a Library database**
Use ArticleReach [https://library.aut.ac.nz/how-to-library/get-items-from-other-libraries](https://library.aut.ac.nz/how-to-library/get-items-from-other-libraries)
Or contact your Librarian Anna Matich anna.matich@aut.ac.nz

**Manage your information**

For a literature review it is helpful to keep a record of the good articles you want to use. This will provide a quick guide when you are writing.

**Example**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Article</th>
<th>Database/ location</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page no.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| Scopus | Alignment of observed classes with existing variations of project delivery methods | 169 |


| Scopus | Blending of a commitment to resolve social issues with commercial enterprise | 135 |

How to prepare a literature review and reading grid [https://library.aut.ac.nz/doing-assignments/literature-reviews](https://library.aut.ac.nz/doing-assignments/literature-reviews) and [https://library.aut.ac.nz/doing-assignments/reports](https://library.aut.ac.nz/doing-assignments/reports).

You can also use a reference manage such as **EndNote** (attend a workshop).


Activity: Try some searches in Library Search or a specific database.

**Questions?**

*Help*

Contact if you would like to meet - Anna Matich [anna.matich@aut.ac.nz](mailto:anna.matich@aut.ac.nz)