Finding stuff: scholarly literature for your research
In this session...

**Best Tools**

Choosing the best tools for the job

[SOLO, Databases A – Z etc.]

**Creating an effective search query**

Developing effective search strategies

[building a research question]

**Working with results**

Making the most of your results
The tools...

**SOLO - Oxford’s resource discovery tool**
- Holdings of most Oxford Libraries (print and online) e.g. books, journals, theses, conference proceedings, AV materials, official / government papers, databases...
- Excellent for finding specific items
- Subject searching limited:
  - Defaults to showing only material held by Oxford Libraries
  - Good for searching for books but less effective for searching for articles, conference papers etc

* Databases A-Z – lists Oxford’s e-resources subscribed to and/or recommended
* e-Journals A-Z – lists Oxford’s online journal subscriptions (not those we only get in print)
* Everything in these lists is also on SOLO but Databases A – Z has some extra browsing features

**Bibliographic Databases**
- Search across the scholarly literature (not Oxford only)
- Particularly good for searching for articles, conference papers, theses etc
- Use Databases A – Z to find out which databases to use
- Usually only get brief bibliographic details (author, title etc). To full text go back to SOLO or Databases A – Z
Useful links

- Bodleian Libraries Home Page
- LibGuides
- Subjects & Libraries
- e-Journals A-Z
- Databases A-Z
- Chinese Catalogues
- Special Collections Catalogues
- Digital.Bodleian
- ORA
- ORLO
Signing in

**Oxford Single Sign On**
Choose this option if you have a University of Oxford single sign-on username (SSO) e.g. abcd0123

[Forgotten password?](#)

**Other Bodleian card holders**
Choose this option if you do not have a University of Oxford single sign-on username (SSO)

[Forgotten password?](#)

☐ Remember this choice for 30 days (selecting this will set a cookie in your web browser)
Finding specific items
SOLO: Drop Down Menu
Keyword searching for books and more

- **Keywords** such as _title_ and _author_ can narrow down your results.
- **Use** of the _drop down menu_ will give you more targeted results, e.g. _articles_, _books_, or _both_.

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**Bodleian iSkills**
Keyword searching for books and more
Keyword searching for books and more

Aristotle, Ross

Multiple versions

Aristotle [electronic resource]
Ross, W. D. (William David), 1877-1971

8 versions of this record exist. See all versions
Keyword searching for books and articles

Furedi, F. (2016) ‘Moral panic and reading: early elite anxieties about the media effect’ Cultural Sociology vol. 10 (4) page 523-537
Searching for books and articles:

Special Characters

• **Double quotation marks “ ”** for **exact title**

• **Wildcard ?** to match a **single character** at the current position

• **Truncation *** to match **zero or more characters** at the current position
Replacing a **single character**

(wildcard)
Replacing multiple characters

(truncation)
Using special characters on SOLO
Using special characters on SOLO

"Arist", "Ro?s"

Aristotle
Ross, W. D. (William David), 1877-1971

8 versions of this record exist. See all versions
SOLO: Boolean Operators

- Simple words used to **combine** or **exclude** results
- **AND** includes **ALL** terms in your search
- **OR** includes **ANY** of the terms in your search
- **NOT** excludes a **term** in your search
- **Advanced search** on SOLO has all these features
Using special characters & Boolean operators
Using special characters & Boolean operators in advanced search
SOLO: Further guides

[Image of SOLO - Search Oxford Libraries Online: Coverage]

- Coverage
- Searching and ordering
- Your account
- Specialist materials
- Useful resources
- Help/Feedback

What is SOLO and what does it cover?