iSkills for Undergraduate Science: Successful searching for your assignment

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Welcome!

01 Where to find good quality research information for your assignments
02 Searching academic databases
03 Planning a search and practise standards search techniques
04 Troubleshoot your searches
Feedback and questions

Please use the Padlet to note down any questions, comments or feedback you have during the session.

https://tinyurl.com/iSkillsComments
Research papers can be used to find some of the latest and most authoritative research on a topic.

You will be making extensive use of academic papers throughout your course.

This means you need to know where to find them!
Finding resources: SOLO & Browzine
Live Demo: Browzine & Hands-on activities
Bibliographic databases

- BOOKS (OFTEN CHAPTER LEVEL INDEXING)
- JOURNALS
- CONFERENCES
- PATENTS
- GREY LITERATURE
Content on databases

- Peer-reviewed
- Selected before being added to the database
- Indexed by subject specialists
- Keywords assigned to each paper
Databases features

1. Search for any topic, author or publication
2. Employ a wide range of advanced search tools
3. Offer plenty of options to filter, sort and analyse results
Finding databases: SOLO Search

- You can search SOLO for a database by its name.
- You can also use the Database limit in the Advanced Search on SOLO to restrict your results to just databases.
Live Demo: Databases A-Z
Planning a search

Research topic:

How accurate are fitness trackers for measuring exercise?
Breaking down a research topic in concepts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Concept 1</th>
<th>Concept 2</th>
<th>Concept 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Keywords</td>
<td>Accuracy</td>
<td>Fitness tracker</td>
<td>Exercise</td>
</tr>
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Activity with padlet – Add alternative terms -
https://tinyurl.com/TopicKeyword

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Wildcards and Phrases

Truncation:
accura* for accuracy, accurate

Different spellings:
Characteri?ation

Phrases:
“Fitness tracker”

Scopus
“…” for terms appearing together
{..} for exact phrase in Scopus (no stop words or hyphen)
Boolean commands

- **AND** – includes

- **OR** – broadens out

- **NOT** – excludes
Boolean operators

- **OR**: synonyms and keywords for the same concept:
  - exercise OR “physical activity”

- **AND**: different concepts:
  - (“fitness tracker” OR “wearable device”) AND
  - (exercise OR “physical activity”)
Activity with padlet – Add truncations, wildcards, connectors

https://tinyurl.com/TopicKeyword
Live Demo: Searching databases

- Applying search strategies
- Filtering results
- Editing searches
- Looking at citing and cited articles, suggested articles, author's and indexed keywords
- Saving results and searches
Citation Counts

• Some databases count citations to papers.
• You can use these citations to find papers which have cited a piece of research you are interested in.
• Citations can also give you clues as to what might be widely read or particularly important papers in a field.
Google Scholar

Great when unsure about article details or journal abbreviations

Find it @ Oxford link

Google Scholar Button
Live Demo: Google Scholar

- Setting up the Find it & Oxford link
- Google Scholar Button
Is there something we don’t have in Oxford?

- If you can’t access the electronic version:
  - Do we have the print version?
  - Open access version?
- Interlibrary loan

More information is available on the [Bodleian Interlibrary loan webpage](https://example.com/bodleian伊利图理借书网页).
Questions?

Let's check the Padlet
Thank you!

For any questions, please email your Subject Librarian:
https://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/ask/subject-librarians
Feedback survey

• It would be great to hear your feedback on this session!
• You can complete our online form here -
  https://tinyurl.com/iSkillsSurvey2223