Information Research Skills

Michaela Venn

Michaela.Venn@utas.edu.au
(03) 6226 4813
Your Library Contacts

Liaison Librarian – Paramedics & Nursing

Michaela Venn
Michaela.Venn@utas.edu.au
(03) 6226 4813
Hobart

Liaison Librarian – Nursing

Susan Bell
Susan.Bell@utas.edu.au
(03) 6324 3139
Launceston

Library Assistant

Rachel Armstrong
Rachel.Armstrong@utas.edu.au
(02) 8572 7965
Rozelle
Learning Objectives

1. Gain an **overview** of Library’s information resources and services
2. Understand the **role of the internet** in finding authoritative medical information
3. Understand the steps in developing effective **search strategies** from assignment topics
4. Understand how to use **Health databases**
5. Understand the principles of **referencing**
Library Home page

1. Search
2. Reading lists
3. 3 important links, always on top of each library web page
4. For students
   - Various good links, incl reading lists
   - Flexible Library services: request library items from catalogue and have them posted to your address
5. Help & support
   - Online tutorials – teach yourself online

What is Flexible Library Services?

The Flexible Library Service is a service offered by the Library to UTAS staff and students who are:
- Living or undertaking practical placement more than 40km from the Launceston and Sandy Bay campuses during semester or
- Undertaking studies or working at the Cradle Coast Campus or
- Registered with the University as a student with special needs due to a disability.

Services offered:
- Request specific items from the Library catalogue and have them posted to your designated address (but you have to pay the return postage).
- Request articles or extracts from books to be posted or sent as an electronic attachment to your email address.
- Ask for help when searching for information.
There are some short videos which will help you understand various aspects of the library and research
Library catalogue best for books: type in keywords of title and surname of first author
Search finds two copies of the book, one hardcopy and one electronic.

Use advanced search if you are not getting what you want from basic search.
Print book – where it is held, call number, status
Can’t borrow books from the Rozelle Library – reference library only (not always staffed during opening hours
Request it
Print book – where it is held, call number, status
Can’t borrow books from the Rozelle Library – reference library only (not always staffed during opening hours
Request it
Print book – where it is held, call number, status
Can’t borrow books from the Rozelle Library – reference library only (not always staffed during opening hours
Request it
Electronic Book – eBook

Pre-hospital obstetric emergency training [electronic resource] : the practical approach / Advanced Life Support Group ; edited by Malcolm Woollard ... [et al.]


Full text available from EBook Library (UTas only)

Details
Description : vii, 211 p. : il. ; 23 cm
Bibliography : Includes bibliographical references and index.
“Read Online”: suggest you do that, read, copy and print. Printing is restricted to 20% and copying to 5%, system will keep track of how much you still have available.

“Download”: need to have Adobe Digital Editions installed on computer (free) ➔ Many ebooks look like this, via EBL

Most of the ebooks we have purchased have an unlimited number of concurrent users, but there are many different types of eBook platforms and publishers, so access etc. can vary.

If only allowed to browse for 5 minutes that means we don’t own the book but you will be given the option to suggest book for purchase ➔ click Request Loan
Activity

Locate an eBook on Nursing

Using the Library catalogue, try find an eBook on Nursing.
Library catalogue best for books: type in keywords of title and surname of first author
Library home page, search for Books/eBooks, using Library catalogue, type in search term (nursing)
There are various ways to restrict your search to eBooks:
• Format (easiest)
• Availability
• Tag
• Location
MegaSearch

- Searches across most of our databases AND the catalogue
- Use it to find articles and books
- Google like – tends to return large numbers of results
MegaSearch searches across most of our databases AND the catalogue. So you can use it to find articles and books. It is Google like in that it tends to return very large numbers of results.

**Sphygmo manometer**

MegaSearch is quite good for broad type searches but as you go on with your studies you will need to use the more subject specific databases, up to you when you use which, I’d suggest try both for a while?
1. Different icons for ebooks, books, journal articles
2. Also search within full text of articles and Available: Online or On Shelf set as default – this should reduce the number of queries about articles we don’t hold, don’t expect it to work 100%
3. Scholarly (Peer reviewed) journals
4. Publication date
5. Source Types
6. Subject
Filters applied:
• Available online (from before)
• Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals
• Date 2010-2014
• Academic Journals

Still over 5000 results → add additional search terms, search for sphygmomanometer too broad. A bit later we’ll look at how to combine search terms.
Activity

Do a search in MegaSearch and refine the results using filters. Search for one of the following assessment tools:

- pulse oximeter
- pupil torch

- If you misspell something it will usually ask “Did you mean:...”
- What you are aiming for is for the relevance ranking to bring what you need to the front page (or two).
If you want the search engine to search for an exact phrase, put it in double quotation marks.
Subject Guides = all your library resources in one place.
Subject specific guides
General guides: New students, Referencing and assignment writing
Tabs and contact details
Tabs and contact details
Activity

- Go to your Subject Guide, explore the tabs.
- Go to the Getting Started tab, open an online dictionary, search for a term.
- Go to the eBooks (Nursing) or Books/eBooks (Paramedics) tab and open an eBook.
- Go to Referencing & Writing tab and check what referencing style you should be using.
- Go to Tutorials & Help tab to look at resources.
Information on the Internet

• Lots of medical information to be found… but be very careful!

• Where is information sourced from:
  – Government (.gov) and non-government organisations (.org)
  – Commercial (.com or .co)
  – Universities and colleges (.edu)
  – News and current affairs
  – Individuals

• Evaluate site very carefully before believing anything you read!

Use the internet as a supplement to other sources of information – not as your sole source of information.
Accuracy

• Is the information presented accurate? If you are not certain then double check facts or details.

• Are documents reproduced from other sources with acknowledgment and without changes?

• Do references document factual information?
Accuracy

The Institute of Delicious Whale Research
This site has nothing to do with the Japanese Institute of Cetacean Research, except for very scientific research purposes only. It would be too complex to explain our research, so you'll just have to trust us there. That we share a similar interest in these graceful, intelligent, fascinating and yet scrumptious mammals is purely a coincidence.

New Product!!
Get your very own Amateur Whale Research Kit! Click here to find out more..
Currency and Integrity

- **Date**
  - Does the site have the date when it was created or last updated?

- **Integrity**
  - What is the overall impression of the page?
  - What other web sites are linked to the page?
  - Could the page be a hoax?
Currency and Integrity

Fake drug site, a drug which allows you to HAVIDOL, “Have It All”.
Purpose and Bias

• Purpose
  - What is the purpose of the site?
  - Is it there to sell something, promote an opinion, disseminate data or statistics, inform or explain?

• Bias or point of view
  - Is the site trying to promote a particular point of view?

Check for bias, be especially careful of your own, it is the hardest to pick!
Purpose and Bias

Welcome to the AFDB Website

This site is dedicated to spreading the word about the Aluminum Foil Deflector Beanie and how it can help the average homeowner. Here you will find a description of AFDB, how to use it, and the benefits, and general information about related subjects. I hope that you find the AFDB webpage to be an important source of AFDB knowledge and advocacy.
Authorship

• Can you identify who created the site? Is the author qualified in the subject? Is it someone's personal web page?

• Does the author or organisation have authority and a good reputation in the subject area covered by the site?
Authorship

Free Online Pregnancy Test

Think you may be pregnant?
If you're concerned that you may be pregnant, take our free online pregnancy test from the privacy of your own home. No messy "stick" tests, no waiting, and best of all, our online pregnancy test results are guaranteed!
Web address

- What is the domain of the page you are looking at (.com, .gov, .org, .edu)?

- Is it appropriate for the information you are looking for? For example, a government report from the appropriate government (.gov) web site?

- Be cautious of URLs that include ~ this is often used to indicate a personal page on an institutes website.

Be cautious if ~ tilde is in address
Evaluation Criteria

• Use information that is authentic, accurate and reliable
• Check for:
  - Web address
  - Author
  - Bias
  - Accuracy
  - Currency
  - Integrity
Activity

Using the evaluation criteria, determine if information from the following web sites should be used for

a) for academic purposes  b) for patient information

Evaluation criteria
- Web address   - Accuracy
- Author        - Currency
- Bias          - Integrity

a) Yes – but for general information only

b) yes

a) no

b) no
a) Yes – for general information
b) yes

SunSmart: one of longest running skin cancer prevention program
Google for scholars
Tends to give huge numbers of results and is hard to limit.
Go to “Settings”, click on “Library links”, search for University of Tasmania, select by ticking and save.

Go to Settings to set up for links to UTAS full text.
Please don’t reference Wikipedia, we might all use it but it is not a suitable scholarly resource. They are constantly improving Wikipedia by requiring all statements to be carefully referenced, just as you are required to reference. So look at the references! Problem is all the usual checks on information on the net PLUS even easier for it to be changed.
A few still in paper, but that is now rare.
Peer Reviewed means that the articles have been reviewed by others working in the field and approved before publication.
Some are considered better than others, this is called Journal impact and is based on how often articles in that journal are cited in other articles.
Journal Citation Reports (JCR) Provided by Thomson Reuters; traditional source of impact factors for journals.
Impact Factor (IF) = average number of times that articles published in a specific journal in the two previous years (e.g. 2000-01) were cited in a particular year (i.e. 2002)
Impact Factors may be obtained for individual journals or for all journals within a subject category or edition within the Journal Citation Reports
Where to search for a journal on the library web site
Journal articles are bundled in journals. Journals are indexed/bundled in databases. There are thousands of journals accessed by hundreds of databases with many overlapping access points i.e. databases.

Some databases, like Web of Knowledge and Scopus are very large and provide access to thousands of journals but can be difficult to refine your search enough. Smaller specialised databases generally provide fewer results but may miss some articles that may be of interest but come under a different subject, like psychology. Remember our library catalogue only has journal titles, not journal articles.
Health Databases

- CINAHL (Cumulative Index to Nursing & Allied Health Literature)
- PubMed (U.S. National Library of Medicine)
- Informit Health Collection (Australian Health)
- Australian Medicines Handbook (Drug information)
- Clinical Evidence – Evidence Based information
- Dynamed – Evidence Based information
- Nursing Consult – Evidence Based information
Search for a database

A-Z Databases
Alphabetical list of databases:

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

What am I searching?
The A-Z Database List is a comprehensive list of journal indexing databases at the UTAS Library.
4 different steps in analysing your assignment questions. I will talk you through using this example assignment question.

Part of analysing a topic is to understand what you are being asked and another part is to start thinking about where you are going to look for information and what search words are you going to use.

We will also look at how you control the way the database searches actually reacts to your search terms.
Topic Analysis

1. Identify main concepts
   - instruction word(s)
   - key concept(s)
   - qualifying or limiting word(s) and phrase(s)
Topic Analysis

1. Identify main concepts

Discuss whether obesity is a contributing factor in the onset of diabetes.

Instruction word
Main concepts
Topic Analysis

2. Assess type of information topic requires

- Brief or factual information → *dictionaries, encyclopaedias*
- Comprehensive or historical coverage → *reference, textbooks*
- Recent developments in a topic → *journal articles*
Topic Analysis

2. Assess type of information topic requires

Discuss whether obesity is a contributing factor in the onset of diabetes.

Instruction word
Main concepts

Recent developments in a topic ➔ journal articles
Topic Analysis

3. Think about alternate terms for key concepts

- Use a thesaurus
- Background reading will give you ideas for alternate terms
- Once you start searching for articles keywords will provide ideas for other terms

The keywords are what you will use for your search terms in databases.

Remember alternative spellings e.g. American vs British
3. Think about alternate terms for key concepts

- Overweight

Discuss whether obesity is a contributing factor in the onset of diabetes.

Instruction word:
- Diabetes mellitus

Main concepts:
- Diabetes insipidus
- Endocrine disease

Alternate keywords:
- "Diabetes Type 2"
Topic Analysis

4. Formulate search strategies

• Boolean logic (AND, OR, NOT)
• Truncation * (eg. medic* = medicine, medical, medicinal)
• Phrases (words together treated as phrase “blood pressure”)

Some databases do truncation automatically.
Remember AND search gives a smaller number of results because it looks only for items which contain BOTH words.

Google automatically ANDs terms
Topic Analysis

4. Formulate search strategies

An OR search will find information which includes either search term.

E.g. obesity OR overweight

OR search gives a large number of results because it looks for items that have both words and either word.

Google also uses OR – it must be in capitals
Google uses a minus sign (preceded by a space) to symbolise NOT
Topic Analysis

Discuss whether obesity is a contributing factor in the onset of diabetes.

Search strategy:

( obesity OR overweight ) AND ( diabetes OR diabetes mellitus OR diabetes insipidus OR endocrine disease )
Health Databases

The library has many health databases:

- CINAHL (Cumulative Index to Nursing & Allied Health Literature)
- PubMed (U.S. National Library of Medicine)
- Informit Health Collection (Australian Health)
- Australian Medicines Handbook (Drug information)
- Clinical Evidence – Evidence Based information
- Dynamed – Evidence Based information
- Nursing Consult – Evidence Based information

Databases usually give you article title, authors, abstract & publication details, sometimes keywords, references and other details. Some databases contain full text, most contain a mixture of full text and Abstract only.

Evidence-based medicine means applying current best research evidence to clinical decision making.

Do not Google databases! Go through library website so that the system recognises that you are entitled to access. See your Library Guide for access and more databases.
Example

Describe the **purpose and functionality** of the **sphygmomanometer**.

Main concepts

Search strategy:

sphygmomanometer AND (purpose OR functionality)

CAA107 assignment topic:
- Think about the assignment question: what are the main concepts?
- What are alternative keywords?
- How can you combine the search terms
We already thought about the search terms. Think about where you want to search for your terms, often the default is anywhere in the article, “abstract” might be better, if the word is here it is probably important to the article.

Limiters – in this case we have selected limit to publication date 2010. Be wary of limiting to “full text” as it will be full text available from this database, the library may have full text from other sources.

Citation database – means that this article has been referenced in a later article (in this database)– handy way of broadening your search. Click on link to go to article.
Finding full-text

Software linking database results to UTAS full text locations:

The link to full text can vary and might take some searching till you get familiar with the database. Some links are more helpful then others.
If full text is not available direct from the database then this is what you are hoping to find. This is a link to the journal where library provides access to article.

If we do have it in paper you can do an “article request” and have it scanned and emailed to you.
Finding full-text

If link doesn’t work, search for the **Journal title** in the library search box, to check if we have the journal and if so, for what period.

If we do have it in paper you can do an “article request” and have it scanned and emailed to you.
If we do have it in paper you can do an “article request” and have it scanned and emailed to you.
Activity

- Go to CINAHL via your subject guide, database tab. Or from library homepage, databases, letter C, CINAHL.
- Conduct a search for information about a topic that you are interested in.
- Apply filters.
Can’t control where the search is of i.e. abstract unless you use “advanced search”. Quite a lot of filters, remember with PubMed the filters remain until they are turned off. Some useful features on the right, articles where the search terms are in the title, full text articles (PubMed Central collection), search details.
If no link to full text of the link does not work, use the “check for Full text @ UTAS” button
Related citations: These are not articles that cite the article you have open but usually are articles referenced in the article
Review Articles can be very important as they summarize the research up to that time.
Boolean search terms NOT supported but double quotation marks for phrase search is supported, as is truncation *
Mode of action, indications, precautions, adverse effects, dosage etc
Evidence-based medicine means applying current best research evidence to clinical decision making.
A systematic review is a high-level overview of primary research on a particular research question that tries to identify, select, synthesize and appraise all high quality research evidence relevant to that question in order to answer it.
Simple interface, can search by category or search term. Mobile version available.
List of headings, click on each one to open them out, links provided to research that each statement is based upon.
Activity

• Search either Clinical Evidence or Dynamed for a condition that you are interested in.

• Can you find the references to the research that the information is based upon?
Books, journals, drug information and patient education
Books, journals, drug information and patient education
Activity

Try searching **Nursing Consult:**

- Go to Nursing Consult from your subject guide or databases page
- Search Entire Site for a condition you are interested in
- Books section – access to a variety of ebooks
- Patient Education
- Drugs
- Images
Referencing

If you use words, ideas, or any other work by someone else you must give credit to this person by correctly referencing them.

- Direct quotes
- Paraphrasing

Academic integrity is fundamental to all activities at university – it is about mastering the art of researching, understanding and building upon the work of others. It requires you to give credit where it is due and acknowledge the contributions of others to your own intellectual efforts.

If you use words, ideas, or any other work by someone else without giving credit to this person it is referred to as plagiarism.

A direct quote is when you take an exact phrase from a source and reuse it word for word in your own work.
Paraphrasing is when you restate a passage from a source in your own words.
More information on Referencing in subject guide.
Online tutorial on academic integrity.
Tutorial on Referencing in MyLO. The unit LIST is available to all students and staff. It also covers other topics such as Topic analysis and Planning your search.
Please complete the short feedback survey.
Type in web address or access through your library guide - tutorials & help tab – Feedback Survey
thanks