Creating search strategies to find information in ECU Worldsearch & the CINAHL Database

Searching ECU Worldsearch and Databases
Finding Information for your Assignments

The ILA ‘Using ECU Worldsearch to find text books and Journal Articles’ takes you through a step by step the process of finding information when the author and title was known.

While you can use the text books/Journal Articles listed in the Reading List as supporting evidence for your Assignments, you are required to go beyond these and find additional quality and credible information.

So how do you search for this information when you don’t have an author and/or title to search for? This online learning tutorial will take you through the process of finding quality and credible information from the library and the internet.
Steps to finding information for your assignments:

1. Plan how to find information.
2. Identify types of resources to use.
3. Locate resources.
4. Evaluate (critically) the resources you have found.
5. Document or record the resources used so they can be referenced.
Step 1 Plan (creating a search strategy)

- **Identify keywords from your Assignment question**
  - what are the key parts (concepts)
  - are there any alternative terms/words for these concepts

- **Smart Searching: how to search for these concepts**
  - words vs. phrases (put phrases in """)
  - Truncation (use * to ensure plurals, word extensions and/or the American spelling are covered in your search)
    - e.g. nurs* = nurse, nursing, nurses
    - e.g. library* = library, libraries
    - e.g. behavi*r = behaviour (Australian) vs. behavior (American)

- **Boolean Operators**: this is the use of ‘AND’, ‘OR’ and ‘NOT’ to join search phrases and words.

For more information go the ‘Getting Started’ page in the Nursing Library Guide (http://ecu.au.libguides.com/nursing/getting-started)
Step 1 Plan (creating a search strategy)

This assignment topic will be used as the exemplar:

1. **Your Assignment topic:** “Discuss the importance of verbal and non-verbal communication in establishing and maintaining a therapeutic relationship between a nurse and patient.”

   *Your discussion should be supported with references from credible and recent academic sources.*

   i. What are the parts of this question?

   ii. What are possible keywords or alternative terms?

   iii. Which need quotations marks or truncated?

   iv. How could the keywords/alternative terms be combined?
Discuss the importance of verbal and non-verbal communication in establishing and maintaining a therapeutic relationship between a nurse and patient. Your discussion should be supported with references from credible and recent academic sources. Word limit: 1000 words +-10%
Let’s breakdown the question

Identify keywords from your Assignment question
are there any alternative terms/words for these concepts.

Activity 1(ii): What are possible keywords or alternative terms for the key parts of the question.

**Hint!** – listed below are some suggestions to consider.
Record these in the Worksheet.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Parts/Concepts</th>
<th>Alternative term</th>
<th>Alternative term</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Verbal and non-verbal communication</td>
<td>Communication</td>
<td>Humour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oral communication</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Therapeutic relationship</td>
<td>Therapeutic relationship</td>
<td>Nurse-patient relationship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurse and patient</td>
<td>nurses</td>
<td>patients</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Step 1 Plan (creating a search strategy)

• **Smart Searching: how to search for these concepts**
  – words vs. phrases (put phrases in “ “)
  – Truncation (use * to ensure plurals, word extensions and/or the American spelling are covered in your search)
    e.g. nurs* = nurse, nursing, nurses
    e.g. library* = library, libraries
    e.g. behavi*r = behaviour (Australian) vs. behavior (American)

Activity 1(iii): Which of the terms require quotations marks or to be truncated?
**Hint!** – listed on the next slide are some suggestions to consider.
Step 1 Plan (creating a search strategy)

- **Smart Searching: how to search for these concepts**
  - words vs. phrases (put phrases in “ “)
  - Truncation (use * to ensure plurals, word extensions and/or the American spelling are covered in your search)

  e.g. nurs* = nurse, nursing, nurses  
  e.g. library* = library, libraries  
  e.g. behavi*r = behaviour (Australian) vs. behavior (American)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Parts</th>
<th>Smart searching</th>
<th>Smart searching</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Verbal and non-verbal communication | Communicat*  
Oral communication* | Humour              |
| Therapeutic relationship| Therapeutic relationship*  | Nurse-patient relationship* |
| Nurse and patient      | Nurs*                      | Patient*            |
Step 1 Plan (creating a search strategy)

- **Boolean Operators**: this is the use of ‘AND’, ‘OR’ and ‘NOT’ to join search phrases and words.

  For more information view the video titled ‘Smart Searching’ in the ‘Getting Started’ page in the Nursing Library Guide

Activity 1(iv): How can the keywords/alternative terms be combined?

**Hint!** – below is a possible search strategy.

(“Therapeutic relationship*” OR “nurse-patient relation*”) AND Communicat* AND nurs*

**Note**: I placed the first concept/key part in brackets because there were potentially 2 search terms for this concept.
Step 2 Identify types of information to be used

*Dictiornaries & Encyclopaedias:* Use these to source the meaning of terminology. Some are e-versions.

- Australian nurses' dictionary
- Black's medical dictionary
  Available online.
- Dictionary of nursing theory and research
- Mosby's dictionary of medicine, nursing & health professions
- Taber's cyclopedic medical dictionary
  Available online

*Books:* Are a good starting point for an introduction to the topic such as background information, theories, frameworks and overviews.

Your Reading List in Blackboard includes recommended texts for your Unit.

Step 2 Identify types of information to be used

**Journal Articles**: Provide information on current research, often specific to a topic. They are an online source of information searchable from the ECU subscribed databases and sometimes ECU Worldsearch.

**Websites**: These include Government Reports, professional, research organisations. The Nursing Library Guide lists many of the credible sites to use.

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**Key Databases**
- CINAHL Plus with Full Text
  - International coverage, core database for nursing and allied health.
- Medline
  - International coverage, core databases for medical sciences.

**Nursing Profession**
- Australian Nursing & Midwifery Council (ANMC)
- Nursing & Midwifery in Western Australia
- Australian College of Midwives
- Nursing & Midwifery Board of Australia
- Review of homebirths in Western Australia

**Some Key Australian Journals**
- ACORN: The journal of perioperative nursing in Australia
- Australasian Emergency Nursing Journal: AENJ
- Australian Critical care
- Australian Journal of Rural Health
- Australian nursing & midwifery journal
Is there a place for using Wikipedia?

Wikipedia only the **planning** stage!

Wikipedia articles can be **useful to gain a quick overview of the topic, and/or to find alternative terms/keywords** for your search strategy. Remember anyone can write a Wikipedia article, so will it be accurate?

Quality Wikipedia articles will **contain references to their sources** - listed at the bottom of each page. They can often be credible quality sources of information that **that you can cite in your assignments**.

**Note:** If the information available in Wikipedia is accurate, it will always be available as a scholarly source, such as a book, Journal Article and/or a quality website. **Do not use a Wikipedia source as supporting evidence in your assignment, always use the scholarly source.**


THEREFORE

No Wikipedia
Recap: finding information in the library

You have now completed:

**Step 1:**
- a. Broken the essay question into parts/concepts and obtained meaning for any unknown concepts e.g. therapeutic relationship.
- b. Created a search strategy to find information using smart searching techniques (such as keywords, phrases, and truncation) and Boolean Operators (AND, OR and NOT)

**Step 2** – looked at the possible types of information (resources) such as Journal Articles, Books and Websites that could be used.
2. Enter your search terms into ECU Worldsearch. Use the ‘Refine Your Search’ filters on the left hand side of the screen.

Refine/limit the results [in stages] to:
- **Content – Full text** (only if Articles are the focus of the search as this will exclude books)
- **Formats - Article/Chapter** (if articles are required)
- **Year – last 5 Years**
- **Languages - English**

- Scan and skim the list to find resources that you may be useful for your assignment.
  - Look at the name/title of the article
  - Read any abstract or summary
- Save possible relevant books/articles to the **Save** folder.
- Source an end-text reference using the **Cite** option.
- e-mail the record using the **Share** option.

Follow the next series of slides to learn how to do the above.
Step 3 - ECU Home page

DESTINATION ECU

ECU has been named in the world’s top 200 most international universities, acknowledging our appeal to overseas students, academics and collaborators.

That's how university should be.

A quality educational experience

ECU students reported a satisfaction rate of 86% per cent, ranking the University fourth in Australia for overall quality of educational experience.

Information about

Library

Schools

Service centres

Employment opportunities

Getting to ECU

Parking

News

Online payments

Want to join ECU as a research professor?
Step 3 Library Homepage

The Library homepage is your gateway to library help and resources.

ECU Worldsearch is the search engine for finding information for your assignments or research, such as books and Journal articles.
A possible search strategy using a term/keyword for each of the 3 topic concepts: “therapeutic relationship” AND communication AND nurs*
Step 3 Locating/searching for information in the library

The first search strategy retrieved 11,080 results. Books are always be listed first.

The next step is to refine the results to meet the assignment criteria:
- Mostly Journal articles (full text)
- Article
- Written in the last 5 years
- English language

Use the filter options on the left-hand side of the search results to do this.
Step 3 Locating/searching for information in the library

Applying the filters reduced the search results to a manageable 282.

You may also be able to refine by topic e.g. nursing. In doing this your search results will become even more relevant.

You may also find that the information covers specific nursing specialisations e.g. mental health nursing,
Step 3 Locating/searching for information in the library

Once the search results are refined, the next stage is to scan and skim for information that you may want to use.

1. Look at the title of the article - does it contain the key terms?
2. Click on the 'Read More' link to read a summary of the article.
3. Any relevant results can be saved by clicking on the 'Save' option.
Step 3 Locating/searching for information in the library

Save any possible relevant results to the saved list:

At this point you may need to download and read the article to make a final decision on its relevancy. You will remember that the ILA took you through this process.

Finally you may wish to share the information you have found and/or copy and paste into a word document the citations for use in your Assignment end-text reference list.
Step 3 Locating/searching for information in the library

There may be a number of other search strategies you could run to source different information. An example could be:

```
*nurse-patient relationship** AND communicat*
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This search strategy retrieved 310 search results once refined as in the previous search strategy. However an initial scan of the Journal article titles revealed a less relevant search
Step 3 finding information using a Library Database

ECU Worldsearch searches across a number of the Library Resources but it is not comprehensive and may not find the most relevant information.

Databases cover specific subjects.

The CINAHL Database is a dedicated research tool for nursing and allied health professionals.
Step 3 finding information using a Library Database

Access the Databases via the Library Homepage and click on the ‘databases’ link

Databases cover specific subjects. The CINAHL Database is a dedicated research tool for nursing and allied health professionals.
Step 3 finding information using a Library Database

Databases are listed A-Z and can be selected by subject area.

Within Nursing there are a number of relevant databases. As CINAHL is the most used Nursing Database it is listed first.
Step 3 finding information using a Library Database

Click on the Database link in the Library Home Page and scroll down the A-Z Database link to ‘CINAHL Plus with Full Text’.

Databases operate using advanced searching where each search box (field) represents a search concept.

The Boolean operators are already populated.

To learn how to search in CINAHL view the video titled ‘Advanced Searching in CINAHL database’ in the Nursing Library Guide under the databases/Journals tab.
Step 3 finding information using a Library Database

Remember to refine the search by information type (journal article and full-text) and date.

Now repeat Activity 2 using the CINAHL Database. Remember to refine the search by information type (journal article and full-text) and date.
Step 3: finding information using a Library Database

Some additional considerations:

- "Nurs"** removed from search strategy because the database is a nursing and allied health specific database.
- Additional database filters allowed a refinement to nurse-patient relations.
Step 3 finding information using a Library Database

To download an article, cite it, save it or e-mail it, click on the title link. Then follow the prompts.

Remember to change the citation style to APA style.

Did the search results differ? Where they more relevant?
Note: Databases do not contain books – use ECU Worldsearch instead.
Step 4 Evaluating resources

We have now completed:
Step 1 - Planned how to find information
Step 2 – identified types of resources to use
AND
Step 3 – located resources including saving specific articles or books that may be of use in your assignment.

Note: websites have been mentioned but time does not allow us to demonstrate searching for information using this type of resource. If you wish to consider information sourced from websites go to the Nursing Library Guide.

The next step is to evaluate the information for relevancy.
Step 4 Evaluating resources

Use the 4 R’s to evaluate resources:

**RECENT** – is the information timely and up-to-date?

**RELIABLE** – what or who is the source of the information? Is the source an expert? Can the information be verified? Is it biased?

**READABLE** – can you easily read and understand the information?

**RELEVANT** – is the information appropriate for your topic

You will find the 4R’s fact sheet along with more helpful hints and tips in the Refer to the Academic Writing: Evaluation Resources Library Guide.
### Evaluating information sources, including books, journal articles and websites

**Remember the 4 “R”s**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RECENT</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Is the information timely and up-to-date?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is the information timeless because it is a classic source?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When was the book or journal article published?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When was the website last updated?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RELIABLE</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Who wrote the book, article or website? (Websites will often include this information under the “About Us” link)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are they an expert in the subject?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are they associated with an institution or organisation in a relevant field?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do they list their qualifications? Do they provide contact details?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Look at the URL or address of a website. Is an educational, governmental, organisational or commercial website? Domain Categories:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.edu (academic institution)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.gov (government body)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.com or .co (commercial body)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.org (non-profit organizations)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Is the information biased in any way?**
- Is it written or sponsored by someone with a vested interest such as a pharmaceutical company, a land developer or a tobacco company?