Finding Information for Assignments

NCS1102 - Using ECU Worldsearch and Databases
Going beyond the known!

The ILA ‘Introduction to library resources’ took you through how to find books and journal articles 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 academic credible information.**

So how do you search for this information when you don’t have an author and/or title to search for? Using Worksheet 2, this tutorial will take you through the process of finding quality and credible information from the library and the internet. *(laptop/mobile device required)*
Steps to finding information for your assignment

- Analyse your topic
- Plan your search
- Decide where to search
- Evaluate and Manage
Step 1 Analyse your Topic

- Analyse your topic
- Plan your search
- Decide where to search
- Manage and Evaluate
Outline four key advantages of using social media in the Nursing profession.

Your discussion should be supported with references from credible and recent academic sources including peer reviewed journal articles and texts.

Word limit: 1000 words +-10%
Worksheet 2 Q1 Activity:

1. Your Assignment topic: “Outline four key advantages of using social media in the Nursing profession.”

Your discussion should be supported with references from credible and recent academic sources including peer reviewed journal articles and texts.

i. List the parts (or concepts) of this question?

   ii. List possible keywords or alternative terms for each of the concepts?
Mind Mapping can help you analyse the assignment topic.

- What are the key parts (concepts)?
- Are there any alternative terms/words that could be used for these concepts?

Step 2 Plan your Search

- Analyse your topic
- Plan your search
- Decide where to search
- Evaluate and manage
Plan your Search

• **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 concepts, search phrases and keywords.

Plan your Search

Worksheet 2 Q1 Activity:

iii. Which keywords/alternative terms are phrase terms – place in inverted commas?

iv. Which keywords/alternative terms require to be truncated [*]

v. How could the keywords/alternative terms for each concept be combined?

vi. Create the search strategy [join each of the concepts using the Boolean operator of AND]

This is an example of a search strategy for the question:
Discuss why eating chocolate makes us feel good?

(chocolate* OR cocoa OR “milk chocolate” OR “dark chocolate” OR “white chocolate”) AND (stress OR pain OR emotion*) AND (reason* OR rationale*)
**What did you have – some suggestions**

**Identify the parts/concepts of the assignment question**
Identify any keywords/alternative terms for the concepts, phrase terms and truncation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Parts (concepts)</th>
<th>Alternative term (synonyms)</th>
<th>Alternative term (synonyms)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“social media”</td>
<td>Twitter, Facebook</td>
<td>“Social network*”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“nursing profession”</td>
<td>Nursing</td>
<td>Nurs*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>key advantages</td>
<td>Advantage*</td>
<td>Benefit*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Identify types of information to be used

**Dictionaries & 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.

Identify types of information to be used

**Journal Articles**

provide information on current research, often specific to a topic. They can be sourced from databases and ECU Worldsearch.

**Websites (credible)**:

include access to Government Reports, professional body literature and research organisation information.

The Nursing Library Guide lists many of these credible sites.

**Key Databases**

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

**Some Key Australian Journals**

- ACORN: The journal of perioperative nursing in Australia
- Australasian Emergency Nursing Journal: RENU
- Australian Critical care
- Australian Journal of Rural Health
- Australian nursing & midwifery journal

**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
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.**

Recap: Analyse and Plan

Step 1 Analysed the Topic:
Broken the essay question into parts/concepts and gained an understanding of any unknown terms/concepts
e.g. what is meant by social media? What is meant by nursing profession?

Step 2 Planned your Search:
• Identified any alternative terms or keywords
• Utilised smart searching techniques
• Created a search strategy using the Boolean Operators
• Considered the types of information that could be used in your assignment.
Step 3 Decide where to search

- Analyse your topic
- Plan your search
- Decide where to search
- Manage and Evaluate
Decide where to search

For this assignment you will use ECU Worldsearch and the CINAHL database.

CINAHL is one of the two main databases used in Nursing and Midwifery. It contains nursing and allied health information.

MEDLINE is the other main database used in Nursing and Midwifery and contains medical/clinical information.
Where to find ECU Worldsearch

Access the Library website homepage through the ‘most popular’ button
Where to find ECU Worldsearch

Your gateway to library help and resources including opening times/borrowing periods

ECU Worldsearch is the search engine for finding information for your assignments or research, such as books and Journal articles.
Worksheet 2 Q2 Activity:

2. Enter your search terms into *ECU Worldsearch*.

How many search results did you get?
Two possible search strategies:

“social media” AND nurs* AND advantage*

OR

(“social media” OR twitter OR facebook) AND nurs* and advantage*

search strategy breakdown:

(“social media” OR twitter) AND nurs* AND advantage*
The initial search strategy retrieved 4,361 results - books are usually listed first.

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

Use the filter options on the left-hand side of the search results to do this.
After applying the filters the search results were reduced to a manageable 265.

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

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

1. Look at the title of the article - does it contain the search terms?
2. Click on the 'read more' link to read a summary of the article.
3. Save relevant articles using the save option.

Go to slide 34 to complete Worksheet 2 Q3
Searching for information in a Database

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

Databases cover specific subjects and topics

Worksheet 2 Q4 Activity:
Searching for information in a Library Database

Click on the database link in the Library Home Page and scroll the alpha letter under ‘C’ to find CINAHL Plus with Full Text
Searching for information in a Database

Databases can also be selected using the subject area dropdown option.

Within Nursing and Midwifery there are a number of relevant databases. CINAHL is the core Nursing Database and is listed first.
Searching for information in the CINAHL Database

Databases operate using advanced searching where each search box (field) represents a search concept. The Boolean operators are already populated.
Searching for information in the CINAHL Database

Remember to refine the search results according to the assignment criteria.

Note: you may need to try a number of search strategies to obtain relevant search results – take different angles and approaches.

In this search strategy ‘education’ as a search term was excluded.

Now repeat Q2- of the Worksheet using CINAHL. Compare the results to those retrieved in ECU Worldsearch – where they more relevant?
Searching for information in the CINAHL Database

Once the search results are refined, the next stage is to scan and skim for relevant information that you may wish to use.
Step 4 Managing information

- Analyse your topic
- Plan your search
- Decide where to search
- Manage and Evaluate
Managing information in ECU Worldsearch

Worksheet 2 Q3 Activity (final part)

Save any possible relevant results to the saved list

You can share the information you have found and/or copy and paste into a word document the citations for use in the Assignment reference list.
Managing information in a Database

You will now download the selected articles to start the evaluation step. The ILA took you through the download process.

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

Remember to change the citation (reference) style to APA.

Did the search results differ between ECU Worldsearch and CINAHL? Where they more relevant?

Note: Databases do not contain books – use ECU Worldsearch to find books.
Recap: Analyse – Plan -Where to search - Manage

Completed:
Step 1 - Analysed the topic
Step 2 – Planned the search strategy
Step 3 – Decided where to search and run the search
  • ECU Worldsearch (library search engine)
  • Databases - CINAHL

Websites have been mentioned but time does not allow us to demonstrate searching for information using this type of resource. Information on how to search for information can be found in the Nursing Library Guide under the Websites tab.

**This type of information is also outside of the scope of your assignment**

Step 4 – managed the information
The next step is to evaluate the information.
Step 4 Evaluating resources

- Analyse your topic
- Plan your search
- Decide where to search
- Evaluate and Manage
Step 4 Evaluating resources

Activity: Worksheet 2 Q5
In worksheet 1 you were asked find, print and bring these articles to the Tutorial

Beyond Baby Steps

Today’s Use of Social Networking Sites and the Nursing Profession

Jean Keen Sandlin, EdD; Dan Hinmon, BIS

ABSTRACT
Nurses use social networking sites, such as Facebook and Twitter, to increase their knowledge of nursing networking sites. This article examines the use of social media in the nursing profession and the role of social networking sites in nursing. The authors discuss the benefits and limitations of using social media in the nursing profession. They also discuss the role of social networking sites in enhancing the quality of nursing care.

doi:10.1097/JPN.0000000000000189

Nolan, S., Hendricks, J., & Towell, A. (2015). Social networking sites (SNS); exploring their uses and associated value for adolescent mothers in Western Australia in terms of social support provision and building social capital. Midwifery, 31(9), 912-919.
doi:10.1016/j.midw.2015.05.002
Step 4 (critically) Evaluating resources

Using 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 – is it easily read and understand the information?
RELEVANT – is the information appropriate for your topic, what type of information is it?

Refer to the Academic Writing Library Guide and the Evaluation Resources tab for more information and helpful hints and tips.
### Evaluating information sources, including books, journal articles and websites

**Remember the 4 “R”s**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RECIENT</th>
<th>Questions</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>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RELIABLE</th>
<th>Questions</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>
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<tr>
<td>- Are they associated with an institution or organisation in a relevant field?</td>
<td></td>
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<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>
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<tr>
<td>.edu (academic institution)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>.gov (government body)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>.com or .co (commercial body)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>.org (non-profit organizations)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Is the information biased in any way?</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Is it written or sponsored by someone with a vested interest such as a pharmaceutical company, a land developer or a tobacco company?</td>
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