Finding information for your assignments

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What do you need to know?

- Develop a search strategy using keywords
- Find information for your assignment
- Search ECU Worldsearch
- Search Nursing/Midwifery databases
- Evaluate information sources
4 steps to find information

1. Analyse your topic
2. Plan your search
3. Decide where to search
4. Evaluate and manage
Discuss the importance of the use of reflective models in the health care profession.
Related/alternative terms

Where do I find related terms?

- Use your own knowledge
- Thesaurus or dictionary
- Wikipedia
- Subject headings
- Keywords
- Check the references of relevant articles

Add related/ alternative terms

Synonyms

Similar topics/ themes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reflective model</th>
<th>Health care</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Models of reflection</td>
<td>Patient care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reflection</td>
<td>Medical care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Patient management</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Finding alternative terms: ECU Worldsearch

From the results list click on the title. View description shows more detailed information.

This includes subjects used to identify the article.
Finding alternative terms: CINAHL Plus

From the results list click on the title.

There are related terms that may be useful for your searches.

A new way of reflecting in nursing: the Peshkin Approach.

Authors: Bradbury-Jones C; Hughes SM; Murphy W; Parry L; Sutton J
Affiliation: School of Healthcare Sciences, Bangor University, Wales, UK.
Publication Type: Journal Article
Language: English

Major Subjects: Education, Clinical Education, Nursing Learning Methods Reflection -- Methods Students, Nursing

Minor Subjects: Diaries; Student Placement; Thematic Analysis; Thinking; United Kingdom

Abstract: Aim. This paper is a report of a new approach to reflection in nursing and demonstrates its positive outcomes for students in clinical practice. Background. Reflection is a popular educational tool in nursing and most traditional reflective practice...
Questions?
Search Tips

Keywords/main concepts
Synonyms, Related Items

Quotation Marks “…”
Search for a phrase
“health care”

Truncation:
Finds alternative endings of a word.
Nurs* finds nurse, nurses, nursed, nursing

Wildcard: ?
For different spelling of a word.
P?diatric for paediatric, pediatric
Search operators: OR / AND

**OR:** Between similar terms

Broadens your search, either concept may be in the results.

**Acute care OR Intensive care**

**AND:** Combine terms

Narrows your search, both concepts must appear.

**Reflective models AND Health care**
Using the advanced search in ECU Worldsearch, remember to change each field to keyword.

(("reflective model\*") OR ("models of reflection")) AND ("health care")
ECU Worldsearch: Limiting the search

- Held at ECU
- Journal Article
- Peer-reviewed
- Select a year range
CINAHL: Search strategy

Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature

Searching: CINAHL Plus with Full Text

"reflective model*" OR "models of reflection"

AND "health care"

Search
CINAHL: Limiting the search

Limit the search on the left side of the screen under Refine Results:

- Year range
- Academic journal
- Major Heading
- Language
CINAHL: Limiting the search

To narrow a search you can filter by Major Heading in CINAHL.

Use the arrow next to Major Heading.

Click on Show More

Select as many headings as you like.

Update

Name: reflection (12)
- student experiences (4)
- clinical supervision (3)
- decision making, clinical (3)
- education, clinical (3)
- education, nursing (3)

Show More
Searching CINAHL, MEDLINE & PsycInfo

Click on **Choose databases**.
Select CINAHL, MEDLINE and PsycInfo by ticking the box.
Then **OK**
Reliable Sources

Books:
- Unit Textbooks
- Reading List and Unit Plan
- ECU Worldsearch for other relevant academic books

Reports: Government, Research and Educational Organisations have reports freely available on the Internet.

Tips for searching for information sources on the Internet:
Web sources – evaluate information, choose authoritative sources. Use filters in a Google search.
Government websites; site:gov
Australian government websites; site:gov.au
Education websites; site:edu
Journal articles

*Journal articles* – current research, often quite specific topics

How do I find high quality information?

- Use the **library databases** to find academic and research articles

**What is a peer-reviewed article?**

- Peer-reviewed means an article has been through a checking process, where other experts in the field have reviewed the article before it is published.

**How do I know if an article is peer-reviewed?**

- Sometimes you can refine your results by peer reviewed.
- Use Ulrichsweb to find if a journal is peer reviewed.
Nursing & Midwifery databases

Use the ‘how to’ guides and tip sheets for each database.

This will help you get the best results.

https://ecu.au.libguides.com/nursing/journal-articles-databases
Evaluating information

**Currency:** Does your topic require current information?

**Relevance:** Is the information appropriate for your topic? Who is the intended audience?

**Authority:** Is the author qualified to write on the topic?

**Accuracy:** Is the information supported by evidence? Can it be verified?

**Purpose:** Is the information fact, opinion or propaganda? Is there any bias?
Questions?
Further help

**Academic Skills Centre**

Online resources: [http://ecu.edu.au/academicskills](http://ecu.edu.au/academicskills)

Book an online, phone or face-to-face appointment with a [Learning Adviser](mailto:learningadviser@ecu.edu.au)

Email: [learningadviser@ecu.edu.au](mailto:learningadviser@ecu.edu.au)

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**Library Services**

Online resources: [http://ecu.edu.au/library](http://ecu.edu.au/library)

Book an online, phone or face-to-face appointment with a [Librarian](mailto:library@ecu.edu.au)

Email: [library@ecu.edu.au](mailto:library@ecu.edu.au)

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