Using Library Resources

Marian Brown
Information Skills Librarian

Become what you want to be
What we will be covering

- Finding Information
- Subject Guides
- Search Strategy
- Hierarchy of Evidence
- Evaluating Research
- Contact Us

Become what you want to be
LSBU Library Website

- Access the library website by clicking on the ‘Library & Academic’ link at the top and then on ‘Library’ on the drop-down menu.
Library

**Library & Academic**
- How to Guides
- Student Administration Offices
- Inter-site Loans
- Library Accounts & Renewals
- Reading Lists Online
- Referencing Your Work
- University Archives Centre
- Student IT Support

**Perry Library**
Opening hours, borrowing, room booking, services for DDS students, part time students and alumni, interlibrary loans and access to other libraries

**Student IT Support**
Information about your IT account, Moodle VLE, software downloads, printing, photocopying, scanning and IT troubleshooting

**Digital Skills Centre**
Digital skills workshops, 1-to-1 support, Microsoft Office Certification, online digital skills resources

**Subject Support**
Find the Library Catalogue, Journals, Databases, Referencing and Plagiarism Advice, and Library Contacts for your subject area

**Havering Library & IT Support**

**Events & Workshops**
Databases

Library and Learning Resources

Nursing: Home

Welcome to the Nursing Subject Guide

Become what you want to be
Databases

From the Find Journal Articles tab you can find:

- Cinahl
- Medline
- Science Direct
- PsycArticles
- PsycInfo
- Academic Search Complete

Can be searched together!

Become what you want to be
Searching for Journal articles via Database searching

Formulate a search strategy

1. Identify your keywords
2. Identify any alternative keywords
Reducing falls amongst older adults

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Keyword</th>
<th>Alternative / related words</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXAMPLE: news</strong></td>
<td><strong>EXAMPLE: media or television</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KEYWORD 1:</td>
<td>OR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALTERNATIVES FOR KEYWORD 1:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AND</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KEYWORD 2:</td>
<td>OR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALTERNATIVES FOR KEYWORD 2:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AND</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KEYWORD 3:</td>
<td>OR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALTERNATIVES FOR KEYWORD 3:</td>
<td></td>
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Become what you want to be
Reducing falls amongst older adults

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<td><strong>ALTERNATIVES FOR KEYWORD 1:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reducing</td>
<td>Minimise OR prevent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AND</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>KEYWORD 2:</strong></td>
<td><strong>ALTERNATIVES FOR KEYWORD 2:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falls</td>
<td>Trip OR slip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AND</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>KEYWORD 3:</strong></td>
<td><strong>ALTERNATIVES FOR KEYWORD 3:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Older adults</td>
<td>Elderly OR geriatric*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Search Tips

- Truncation * e.g. manag* will find manage, managed management, managing, manages etc.

- Phrase searching “” e.g. “older adults”

**OR** for alternative terms (synonyms) e.g. elderly OR “older adults” -> increases the number of results

**AND** to connect words with different meanings, e.g. diabetes AND manag* -> decreases the number of results

Become what you want to be
Boolean Operators: AND

Narrows your search query = Fewer results
Boolean operators: OR

Expands your search query
  =
  More results
Boolean Operators: NOT

Narrows your search query = Fewer results
Reducing falls amongst older adults

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<td>OR ALTERNATIVES FOR KEYWORD 1: Minimis* OR prevent*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AND</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keyword 2: Fall*</td>
<td>OR ALTERNATIVES FOR KEYWORD 2: Trip* OR slip*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AND</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keyword 3: “Older adult*”</td>
<td>OR ALTERNATIVES FOR KEYWORD 3: Elder* OR geriatric*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Step by step

“Choose Databases” > Add in other relevant databases

Limiters:
- Publication date > 5-10 years
- Source Type > Academic Journals
- Language > English

- Too many results? Can you be more specific with your keywords?
- Too few results? Can you widen your search with more generic keywords? E.g. searching “vegetable” instead of “carrot”
Using Google Scholar

When searching on campus, you are able to access articles that are part of Library subscriptions, through Google Scholar.

When off campus, you will need to set this up manually:
• Go to scholar.google.co.uk
• Click on Settings
• Click Library Links in the left column
• Search for LSBU
• Select London South Bank University– Full-Text@LSBU
Google
searches here...
The DEEP web

- Intranets (internal internet sites)
- Academic databases
- Unlinked sites which haven’t told Google they exist, or have asked to remain unlisted
- Basically, anything that needs a password
Hierarchy of Evidence

- SRs, Metanalysis
- RCTs
- Cohort studies
- Case Control
- Cross-sectional studies
- Case series, case reports
- Ideas, opinions, editorials, anecdotal

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Web addresses

gov.uk = UK government
ac.uk = UK universities
org.uk or org = not for profit (e.g. charities)
edu = US universities
com OR co.uk = commercial (e.g. newspapers)
~ = personal page
(beware!)

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Evaluating research

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CRAAP!

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- **Currency:**
  - The timeliness of the information.
  - When was the information published or posted?
  - Has the information been revised or updated?
  - Does your topic require current information, or will older sources work as well?
  - Are the links functional?
CRAAP!

- **Relevance:**
  - The importance of the information for your needs.
  - Does the information relate to your topic or answer your question?
  - Who is the intended audience?
  - Is the information at an appropriate level (i.e. not too elementary or advanced for your needs)?
CRAAP!

- **Authority:**
  - The source of the information.
  - Who is the author/publisher/source/sponsor?
  - What are the author's credentials or organisational affiliations?
  - Is the author qualified to write on the topic?
  - Is there contact information, such as a publisher or email address?
  - Does the URL reveal anything about the author or source? examples: .com .edu .gov .org .net

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- **Accuracy**: The reliability, truthfulness and correctness of the content.
- Where does the information come from?
- Is the information supported by evidence?
- Has the information been reviewed or refereed?
- Can you verify any of the information in another source or from personal knowledge?
- Does the language or tone seem unbiased and free of emotion?
- Are there spelling, grammar or typographical errors?

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- **Purpose:**
  - The reason the information exists.
  - Is it to inform, teach, sell, entertain or persuade?
  - Do the authors/sponsors make their intentions or purpose clear?
  - Is the information fact, opinion or propaganda?
  - Does the point of view appear objective and impartial?
  - Are there political, ideological, cultural, religious, institutional or personal biases?

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https://www.csuchico.edu/lins/handouts/eval_websites.pdf

**Become what you want to be**
Evaluating research

http://www.casp-uk.net/casp-tools-checklists

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Become what you want to be
Contact us - Southwark

Email your Information Skills Librarian for 1:1 advice: LLRhsc@lsbu.ac.uk

Please note we are unable to do same day appointments.

During term time visit the:
Research Help Desk
Located on 3 Bridge, Perry Library
Between 11.00am - 4.30pm

Become what you want to be
Quick drop-ins for students.

Library and Learning Resources & Skills for Learning are here to help!

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