Nursing 204: Technology and Nursing informatics
Library Searching

Part 1: Using AND/OR and General Searching

STUDENT NAME:

Learning Objectives

- Able to successfully use OR / AND in literature searches
- Provide an overview of using subjects, subheadings, and refining features
- Be able to use tree view and explode features
- Conduct both simple searches and those using both OR plus AND
- Understand differences between searching in CINAHL and Nursing and Allied Health

Activity 1 – Using AND / OR (Boolean Operators)

children AND aspirin

And is the “shared” space between the children circle and the aspirin circle. AND reduces the number of items retrieved in a search. The more concepts you link together using AND, the fewer articles will be retrieved.

renal disease OR kidney disease

This search located articles that are about either (or both) renal or kidney disease. OR always increases or expands the number of articles found.

This image demonstrates using AND versus using OR when searching. **ANDing** two or more concepts reduces how much is retrieved. It is the intersection between two overlapping circles. **OR** expands how much is found. Everything in both circles is retrieved. **Tips** for searching Google/Google Scholar.
You must use parentheses to build a search when using both AND along with OR in the same “sentence”. Look at the last example on this website.

Circle, highlight, or type your answer.

1. Which increases the number of items found?
   A. AND
   B. OR
   C. NOT

2. Using AND/OR only works in library databases, not in Google or Google Scholar.
   A. True
   B. False

3. AND, when used to link two concept terms (e.g. children and violence) will retrieve only those records that contain both concept terms.
   A. True
   B. False

4. Using AND ...
   A. Expands the search
   B. Restricts or limits your search
   C. It depends

5. OR, when used to link two or concept terms will retrieve fewer records because both terms need not be present in each article.
   A. True
   B. False

6. Which of the following will find the most relevant articles for the choosing a color to create a calming atmosphere for a nursery? _______________
   A. (Blue or green or pink) and nursery and calming
   B. Blue or green and pink and nursery and calming
   C. Blue and green and pink and calming or nursery
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**ACTIVITY 2 — USE QuickSearch**

QuickSearch provides a single search box to find books and articles across most of the library's collections. Using QuickSearch (found on the library home page), search for articles on the role of hospital nurses in disasters; limit to publication date of 2015 to present. Like any search engine, use only the key words of the question.

a) What did you type into the search box?

b) How many articles did you find? ______

c) Limit your results to peer reviewed. Number found? ______

d) Limit to the nursing discipline. How many? ______

e) Choose nursing from the subject terms list. Number? ______

f) Can you refine your search to research articles? Yes  No

g) Put three articles into the folder (to the right of the title).

h) Click the folder icon at the top of the page. Export the three articles to RefWorks. If you get a page asking for a version, choose the blue/right option.

**ACTIVITY 3 — USE Google Scholar**

Using Google Scholar (found on the library’s list of databases), search for articles on the role of hospital nurses in disasters, limit to publication date of 2015 to present.

a) What did you type into the search box?

b) How many articles did you find? ______

c) Try switching the order of your search words – did the results change?

d) What if you entered “nurses role” as part of your search terms? Number of results?

e) How many items on the first page had either HTML or PDF links to the full text article? ______
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f) Would you consider using any of the suggested Related searches found at the bottom of the first page? Why/why not? ____________

g) Why did I have you start your use of Google Scholar by choosing the link in the library’s list of databases?

h) Choose three articles to add to RefWorks. Click the “quote” mark found below each citation. Choose APA, then click RefWorks. Repeat for the second and third articles.

**PART 2: SPECIALIZED NURSING DATABASE SEARCHING**

**ACTIVITY 4 — DETERMINE THE RESEARCH QUESTION**

**Case Study**

A 45-year-old woman comes into the clinic for her regularly scheduled physical exam. Her blood pressure is 140/90. The rest of her history, physical assessment findings, and laboratory work are benign. When you discuss her findings with her, she asks you about her chance of having a heart attack, because her blood pressure is now considered to be hypertensive. You decide to search the literature to find the best evidence to answer her question.

1. Using the PICO model, what is the question you want to research? Write the sentence below.

2. Break your search topic into components. For example, if I am searching for SAD, I might also need to look for winter blues or winter depression. What are other possible keywords, synonyms, or related terms for each of the pieces of your research question?
Activity 5: Case Study Question

Using CINAHL,

- Answering this question will require:
  - two subjects. List them.
  - at least one subheading. Your choice? __________
  - one age limit

Enter each subject – one at a time, connecting one of the subjects with at least one subheading. Combine your results using AND.

a) Number of articles found? _______

b) Limit your results to peer review articles. Number found? _______

c) Limit to adults in her age range. Number found? _______

d) Limit to females. Number found? _______

e) Add the research articles limit. Number found? _______

f) Export 3 articles to RefWorks by clicking on the folder to the right of each article title. After three have been chosen, open the Folder View, Select all, choose Export, then click the Save link.

Activity 6 – CINAHL using AND plus OR for this question.

Alternative methods for treating patients are rising. Using CINAHL, find peer reviewed, research articles that discuss the using music as a treatment for reducing anxiety and/or pain in hospitalized adult patients. This question assumes the use of OR as a search strategy.

- Answering this question will require:
  - four concepts/subjects. List them.
  - two limits. List them.
  - one age group
  - Use of OR as well as AND to get final result
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a) Open CINAHL and enter each of the concepts one at a time in the search box. Use OR to combine the two conditions being treated.
b) Combine that result with the treatment being researched.
c) Add the setting and age of the patient population. How many articles remain? ______
d) Limit to the specific types of articles. How many articles remain? __________

ACTIVITY 7: COMPARE CINAHL AND NURSING AND ALLIED HEALTH.

The research question: Are there comparative studies for diet vs. bariatric surgery for weight loss in middle aged people? Circle or list the four subjects.

CINAHL: Enter each of the four subjects one at a time in the search box.

a) As you enter each subject, be comprehensive – choose to search broadly. What check box should be used, when available? ______
b) Combine all four subjects using AND. How many articles did you find? ____
c) Click the Edit link – limit to English, middle-age, and peer review articles. How many did you find? ______.
d) Click the Edit link and limit to research articles. How many are left? ______
e) Click the edit link and limit to evidence-based practice. How many are left? ____
f) Can you think of a reason why I asked you to add the last two limits one at a time?

Let’s try another approach. Combine your result for diet with your result for bariatric surgery using OR. Combine that result with the comparative study and weight loss results using AND. How many articles are left? ______
h) Limit to English, middle age, and peer review articles. Number? ______
i) Limit to research articles. Number? ______
j) Limit to evidence based practice. Number? ______
k) Click the view results link for the results from question E and compare to the results from question J. **Why would one result be better than another?**

**Activity 8. Working with CINAHL Results**

a) Add a couple of articles to the folder, then open the folder.

b) Select all. Click the e-mail option in the right column. Can you:

   i. include a copy of your search history  **YES  NO**

   ii. get PDF copies of articles found in this database  **YES  NO**

   iii. choose a citation format  **YES  NO**

b) Hit the Back link twice. Choose 3 articles and export them to RefWorks.

c) Not every article in CINAHL is available directly from the database. **What is the link called that lets you check for full text content from other sources?**

**Activity 9. Search Nursing and Allied Health Database.**

The research question: **Are there comparative studies for diet vs. bariatric surgery for weight loss in middle aged people?** This database presents two search boxes. Click *Add a row* if you need more boxes.

a) How many articles did you find? _____

b) Click modify search and add the age limit option? __________

c) Can you limit/refine your search to research articles? ____________

d) Export three references to RefWorks.

Medical subjects and subheadings do exist in this database. They are not the default option, though. To use these features, make sure you are on the Advanced Search page. Click the Thesaurus link. As with CINAHL each subject is entered one at a time choose the MeSH 2018 terms thesaurus.

e) Choose the *Begins with* option, enter diet and find the main entry. Explode it. How many articles did you get? _____

f) How does this result compare to CINAHL’s results? _______
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   g) Repeat using the thesaurus for each of the search terms and explode them. Result? _______

   h) Click the funnel shape next to one subject. What does this do? __________________

   i) Type in bed sores. Is there a funnel next to this term? ______

   j) Click on bed sores. What happens? __________________

ACTIVITY 10 – REFLECTION ON THESE TWO NURSING DATABASES
What criteria might you use to compare these two nursing databases? Perhaps number of journals indexed?

    a. In Nursing & Allied Health, click on the publications link in the top bar.
       i. How many publications does it list? _______
       ii. How many are scholarly? ______
       iii. Notice the second entry – does it list having full text coverage? _______

    b. CINAHL does not provide an embedded number inside the database. This webpage gives this information.
       i. How many journals do they index? ______.
       ii. Of that number, how many full text journals come with the library’s subscription? ______

    B. Perhaps the number of limits to focus your search?

    C. Perhaps ease of access to full text articles?

    D. Do you have a preference between using CINAHL and Nursing and Allied Health? What are the pros and cons of using one tool vs. the other? List one pro and one con for each database.

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