Nursing Literature Tutorial: Review, Research, and Theory

In this tutorial, you will learn how to use the CINAHL Complete database to search for systematic reviews, research reports, and theory-based articles.

Navigation
Step One: Access the Benner Library homepage at library.olivet.edu.
Step Two: Click on "Subject Guides" on the home page.
Step Three: Click on the "Nursing" subject guide under the "Most Frequently Used Guides" heading.
Step Four: Navigate to the CINAHL Complete database.

Systematic Reviews

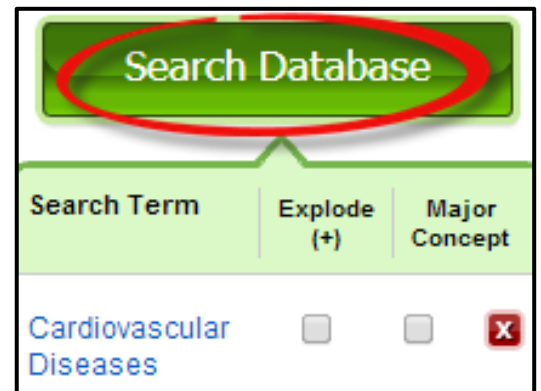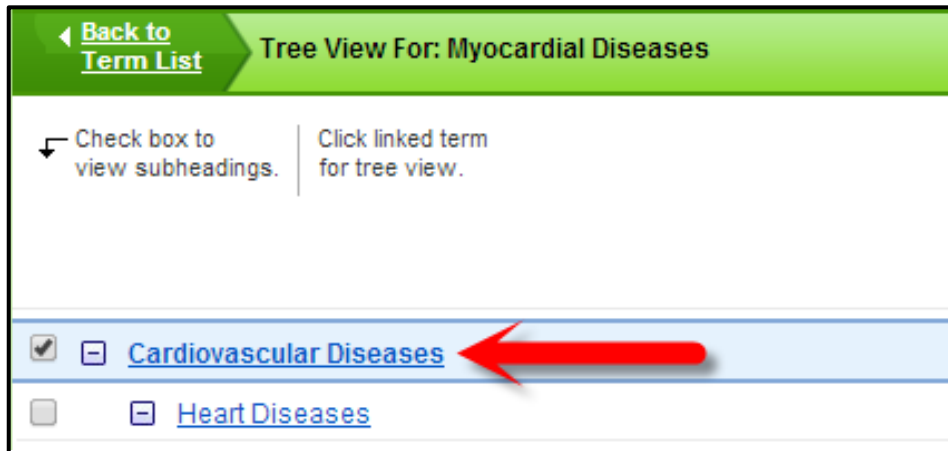**Step 1:** Click on **CINAHL Headings** at the top of the page.
Step 2: In the search box, type in your search term (for example "cardio*").
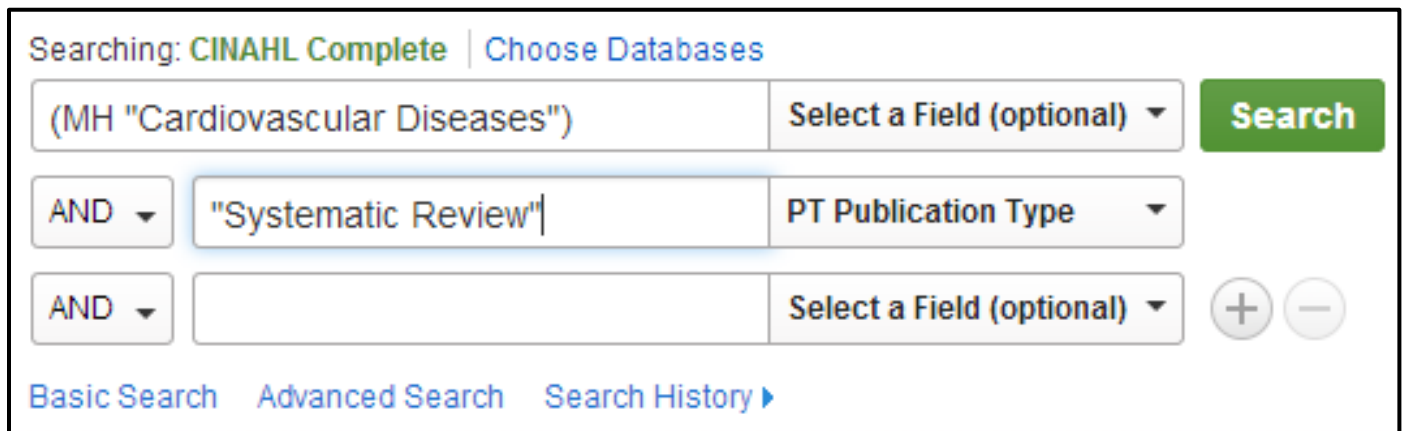**Step 3:** Click browse.

Note:
Searching "cardio*" and searching with an asterisk will bring up terms that contain "cardio" such as **cardi**ology and **cardi**ovascular.

Step 4: Check-mark the term that best fits your topic, and then select "Search Database".
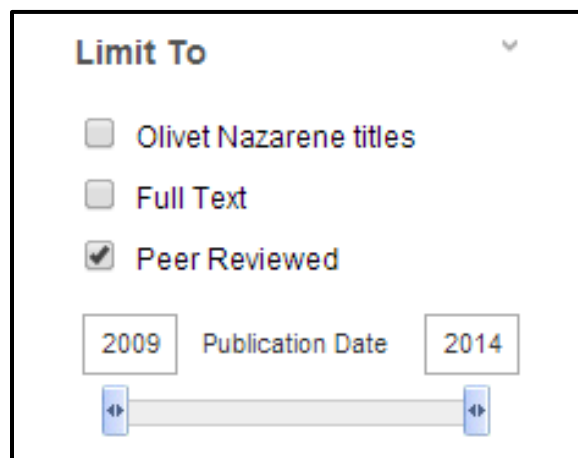

Step 5: Underneath your term, type in "Systematic Review" and select "Publication Type" for the field.
Step 6: Click Search.

Step 7: Using the limiters on the left hand side of the database, refine your results by selecting "Peer Reviewed" and changing the date to meet the guidelines of your assignment.

Step 8: Click on an article title to read the abstract and see if it contains the appropriate information needed for your paper.
Step 9: If the article is not available in fulltext or PDF, you can request it through Interlibrary Loan.

Research Reports

Step 1: Start a new search using CINAHL Complete and click on CINAHL Headings at the top of the page.
Step 2: Type in your search term and click "Browse".
Step 3: Like you did when searching for a Systematic Review, check mark your term and select "Search Database".
Step 4: Type in "research" in the search box beneath your term and choose "Publication Type" for the field.

Step 5: Refine your results by selecting "Peer Reviewed" and adjusting the publication date according to the requirements of your assignment.

Step 6: Click on the article link to find out more information about the article.
Step 7: If the article is available as a PDF, simply open it to view the article. You can also request the article through Interlibrary Loan if it is not available as fulltext.

Theory-Based Articles

Step 1: Start a new search using CINAHL Complete and click on CINAHL Headings at the top of the page.

Step 2: Type "Theory-Based Practice" in the search box, making sure that the option "Relevancy Ranked" is check-marked.

Step 3: Check the box next to "Nursing Practice, Theory-Based". Clicking on the scope option next to the term will bring up a description of that term.

Step 4: Click "Search Database"

Step 5: Add your term to the search box.

Step 6: Refine your results with the left-hand column by selecting "Peer Reviewed" and adjusting the date.

Step 7: Click on the article to read the abstract and see if it contains relevant information pertaining to your research.