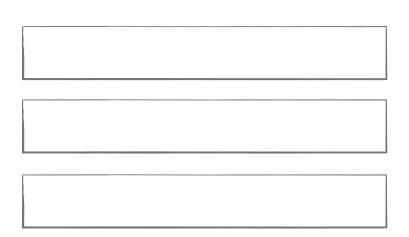
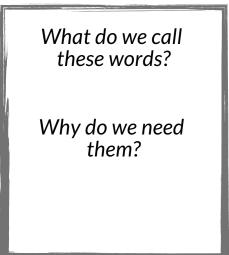
Research Strategies

Start with your research question.

Are wildfires in urban areas affected by global warming?

Cross out words that are not important to your search (and, the, or, etc..)
List the words that you are left with.

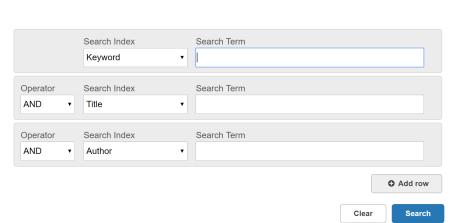




Take the next step and try these words in the library catalog.

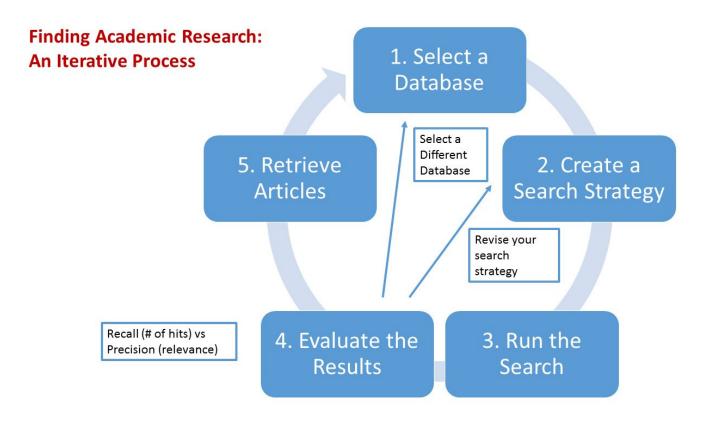


Advanced Search



Using the
'advanced search'
feature can make
it easier to add
several keywords
to your search.

What if my results aren't useful?



Refining Your Search

Start by finding more keywords.





Developing Your Search Strategy

Develop and list potential search combinations to try with your keywords. Most library databases cannot interpret natural language, so instead you will want to use permutations of your keywords, operators (e.g. AND, OR, NOT), and perhaps even specialized symbols (e.g. *, " ").

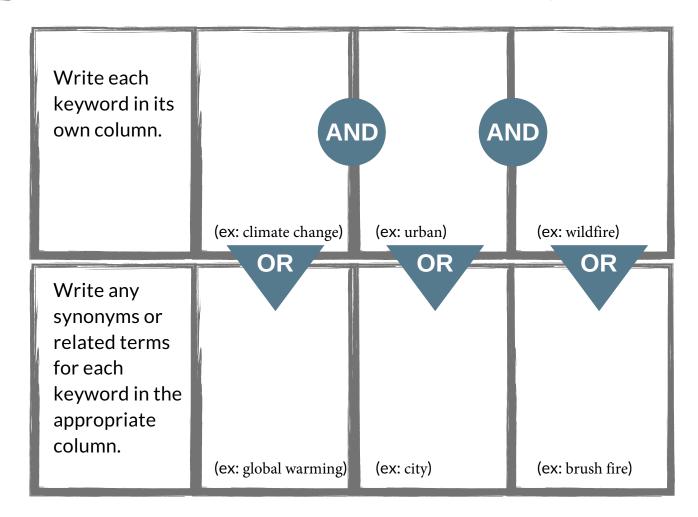
AND - combines search terms.

OR - broadens a search. Results will match at least one of the terms.

NOT - excludes a term from a search.

Quotes (" ") - A symbol commonly used for matching a phrase.

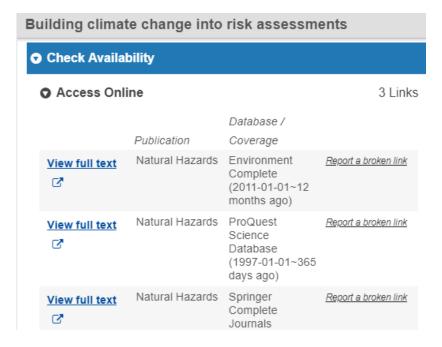
Truncation (*) – symbol commonly used for matching related words with different endings (e.g. vacci* will include vaccinate, vaccinates, vaccine, vaccines, vaccination, vaccinations and vaccinating).



Additional Strategies

Try using different databases.

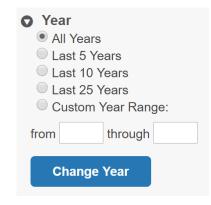
Since the library catalog doesn't search through all of our databases, it may help to search within the databases themselves to get more relevant results.



How do you pick a database that is relevant to your topic?

Use the filters.

Don't forget to use the filters to limit your search results to items you can use.



All Formats All Formats Article, Chapter (644) Article (623) Chapter (20) Downloadable Article (1) Book (13) Thesis, Dissertation (8) eBook (3) Print Book (3) Archival Material (3) Downloadable Archival Material (3) Video (1) VHS Video (1)

Contact a librarian. We are here to help!

Check out the course guide for this class at: uncg.libguides.com/IAR124

If you just have a quick question, you can chat with us from the libraries homepage.

