Best Practice for Literature Searching
Choosing the best database for the topic

- What databases are there to choose from?
- Why are there so many?
- What types are there?
- Why do some have good indexing and little full text but others have lots of full text and poor indexing?
Many databases – but which one?

- Medline;
- JSTOR,
- Wiley Interscience;
- Maternity and Infant care;
- Science Direct;
- Proquest Central;
- Academic Search Complete;
- Factiva;
- LexisNexis…
Types of Databases

- General and Subject specific
- Academic and Commercial
Subject specific databases

These are often:

- More academic in nature
- Have discipline affiliations
- Have good indexing,
- Draw journals from a variety of sources
General Multidisciplinary databases

These often:

- Cover a variety of disciplines
- Provided by journal aggregators or individual publishers
Different Databases for different purposes

- Library catalogue
- BONUS
- Trove
- ABS
- Web of Knowledge
- Scopus
- Reference Universe
Find Databases (UTS Library)

- No matter what your discipline area, the library has a category and list of suggested databases for you.
- But they are only suggestions
- You can also create your own list of “My Databases”
Searching FTW

- Searching For the Win