Library Research Skills

Grad Cert in
Child and Family Health Nursing
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Library Website

Right from the very front page of the Library Website you’ll see there’s a lot you can find out about the library. In this session we will show you how to find that essential information you’ll need for your assignments such as that found in books and journal articles.

Other features and services you’re likely to want to use from the library include:
- **MyLibrary** where you can Renew and check your loans;
- **Tabs** across the top (similar to UTS Website) showing options for different groups
- Quick search/find spaces to help you access the **Library catalogue** for a wide variety of resources and **Databases** which allow you to search for journal articles. There are also many online tutorials and subject guides which we’re developing all the time! Check the Help icon for more info about those:

  **Helpful hint:** Use the Search option if you’re looking for a particular page or service.

**Upcoming Events** is where we list all our library sessions – at least those which are held in the library!

There is lots more to explore too...
Library Catalogue

You can access the Library Catalogue directly from any page on the website where you see this space:

The UTS Library Catalogue just has one search space for all your searches.

It is particularly good for doing searches on your topic and has many useful features, including Google books previews for some titles.

We are constantly looking for feedback to continue to improve this service. In some ways it is smart enough to adapt to how people actually use it. But if you have any feedback, please let us know!
Video Tutorials via YouTube – UTS Library Channel

Information Services Librarians in the library have been busy creating lots of online tutorials which demonstrate lots of different services we have in the library. These include specific database demonstrations, how to reference, finding books in the catalogue, exporting references to Endnote etc etc.

There are a few ways you can find them (including a simple Google search for UTS Library YouTube) Here is a link which will also help: http://www.lib.uts.edu.au/tag/youtube

There is a “Nursing” playlist and a “Midwifery” playlist will be available soon!
Finding Books from a Reading List

Your subject outline lists a number of books which are recommended reading. Some are included here:


To find how you can obtain them, search any words from each title in the library catalogue: [http://find.lib.uts.edu.au/search.do](http://find.lib.uts.edu.au/search.do)

Once you find the item you’re looking for in the catalogue, see the “box” for the holdings information – Location, Call number and Status. The call number is where you’ll find it on the shelf.
Getting books from the Library

If a book you want is not available on the shelf at your campus library (ie is out on loan, or is at another campus), you may request it by clicking “Request Item” towards the bottom of the screen. This takes you to MyLibrary.

*Handy tip!: When available, you can also check the “Google Preview” to see whether the book is likely to have the information you are looking for ...*

MyLibrary is part of the Library Catalogue and allows you to:

- Check and renew items you have on loan
- Request items which are only available from other campuses
- Request items which are on loan to other people (try BONUS too)
- Check items you have requested (on hold)

You will be notified by email when items you have requested are available for pick up.

Please note that the library sends all notices to your UTS webmail. If you prefer to use another email address, you can redirect your UTS webmail to your preferred address. (Recommended)

*BONUS* is a lending scheme which allows you to access a wider range of books than which are available at UTS library. If a title you want is not currently available at UTS library, you can try clicking on the green symbol to see whether it is available for loan at one of the other Bonus libraries. See the Bonus page for more information [http://www.lib.uts.edu.au/students/borrowing-and-membership/bonus](http://www.lib.uts.edu.au/students/borrowing-and-membership/bonus)

**InterLending Requests**

If you can’t find a book or journal article you want via the library catalogue (or bonus), it often means that UTS library doesn’t have it. In that case, make an Interlending Request. You will need to fill out an online form with the details of your article via this page

Finding Journal articles from a reading list

The following are some of the journal article citations from your reading list:


Identify the journal title within each citation. (*Hint: these are usually in italics*)


Type in say, *Australian Journal of Advanced Nursing*, the journal title in the second by Keatinge et al.

Identify whether this is available in print or online – or both? Make sure you check what the library holds within each service as they can vary quite a lot! How many of these services have our article?

Click on the title and follow the links until you reach your article. The **key** to finding it is to note the Volume and issue numbers and page numbers.
Journal Databases – Brief overview

There are many journal databases available through the library which can help you find journal articles on a particular topic. The following are just a few recommended databases for NMH students – there are many others too. Databases vary a lot in their coverage and strength on particular topics. eg, some are stronger on surgical and clinical topics while others are stronger on social and educational topics. Not every database will be suitable for every search. Use the library’s new Database Finding tool to help you locate the database you want. You can also save your own list of favourite databases in “My Databases”.

Cinahl (Cumulative Index to Nursing & Allied Health Literature) is a specialist Nursing database. Cinahl is an authoritative academic database and is compiled by a range of specialist researchers in US particularly, but also from around the world. It has approximately 15% of articles available in full text. However, many of the other articles may still be available through other sources via the library via SFX. Vendor or provider is EBSCO.

MIDIRS or Maternity and Infant Care is a specialist Midwifery database and is usually the place to start for Midwifery topics. However there is also a lot relating to Midwifery to be found in CINAHL and the Cochrane library.

Medline (OVID or Ebsco) is a specialist medical database which is very clinical in nature. It is similar to Cinahl only it is designed for a wider range of medical professionals. It has approximately 15% of articles in full text, it has SFX links and like PsycInfo is provided by OVID.

PUBMED is a free version of databases which include Medline and is a useful alternative.

Academic Search Complete (Ebsco) is a very strong multidisciplinary database.

PsycINFO (OVID) is a specialist psychology and psychiatry database maintained by the American Psychological Association. It is well indexed with its own controlled subject thesaurus and provides systematic coverage of the psychological literature from the 1800s to the present. Only a small number of articles are provided in full text by the database, but many articles will be available via SFX. PsychInfo is provided by OVID.

Wiley Interscience and ScienceDirect (Elservier) are two different multidisciplinary databases which include many useful academic health resources.

SCOPUS and Web of Science are both a multidisciplinary database which are often used for citation analysis.

Google Scholar is a subset of Google (and freely available) and while it is not recommended as your primary database, it can be useful for a range of reasons: May help to fill in gaps, good for verifying incorrect citations, sources articles and books. Beware though: Like Google it has hidden software to prioritise your results the way it wants to! It is possible to use library links (access via the library databases list) and you can export citations to Endnote and Refworks (although quality of reference information can vary greatly). Log into Google Scholar via the library’s “Find Databases” page to get access to the UTS Library Links.
Choosing the right database and developing a search strategy

UTS Library subscribes to many different databases and the ones listed on the previous page are most of the major ones you are likely to use. However, you need not limit yourself to these especially if you need to undertake a comprehensive literature review for your research.

There are many different types of databases:
- general and subject specific
- academic and commercial

General or multidisciplinary databases include Academic Search Premier, Expanded Academic ASAP, Science Direct, Wiley InterScience. These are often aggregated databases or publishers’ sites – that is, the means for making their content available online. Level of indexing is varied and especially the aggregated databases may include a wider variety of literature.

Subject specific databases such as PsycINFO, CINAHL, Medline and Maternity and Infant Care are usually compiled and maintained by academic research organisations (eg APA, National Library of Medicine) and may be provided by a commercial vendor. These databases often have good quality indexing and journals represented are usually peer reviewed.

No single database will have all the articles on your topic and the number articles you can retrieve from each may also depend on the search terms you choose. Finding the right terms might be as simple as picking out major words from your topic – or PICO sentence. But sometimes there may be other words which are used for the same concepts (eg: DVT, deep vein thrombosis, venous thrombosis, blood clot etc). This is important to consider especially when searching in databases without a controlled thesaurus (like PsycINFO, CINAHL and Medline all do) as different articles may well use different words for the same concept.

**Suggested topic:** Perinatal and Infant Mental Health

Identify the keywords (underlined above) then try to think of similar or related words which might also locate useful information for your assignment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Keywords</th>
<th>Related words and phrases (may be narrower or broader too)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Perinatal</td>
<td>Birth, Postnatal, Prenatal, labour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infant</td>
<td>Baby, Neonate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health</td>
<td>Depression, Mental illness, Postnatal depression</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When there is a controlled thesaurus, the hard work of bringing those articles with the various terms for the same concept together is largely done for you. Each article is indexed with the major **subject terms or headings** (sometimes also called **Descriptors**) which are chosen from a thesaurus. This ensures all articles on a topic should have a common subject heading.

**The following worked examples** are all health related databases, but you might find that multidisciplinary, databases will be worth trying.
Worked Example 1 – PsycINFO (Ovid)

Before you start your search in a database, spend some time looking at your assessment topic. Underline or write down the key concepts you need to find. This will form the basis of what you search – or look for – in the database. Each concept will be searched for separately and then combined.

**Search Topic:** Perinatal and Infant Mental Health

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Action</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Go to the library home page: <a href="http://www.lib.uts.edu.au/">http://www.lib.uts.edu.au/</a> Click on “Find Databases”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Select “Health” in the left box in the Databases finding tool, then select “Mental Health”, “PsycINFO” will be one of the databases in the resulting list.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Once you’re in the database (which defaults to the “Advanced Search”) and ensure the “Map term to subject heading” box is ticked (also a default). Start by typing in “Mental Health” and then Search:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Instead of retrieving all the items with the word “mental health” it goes looking for Subject Headings in the database’s Thesaurus which relate. In this case, there is a direct match:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Click on “Continue”.

4. Now you are ready to search for your second concept. Try typing in “perinatal”. This term does not map exactly but you will find there are some useful suggestions in the list:

You should tick the heading which most closely relates to the concept you were actually thinking of when you entered the term. In this case “Perinatal Period” is the closest (even though it is tempting to select some others!) Select the box next to it and click on “Continue” and the screen will return to where you started.

You just need to click on where it says “Search History” so you can see your searches so far represented:

5. Now tick the boxes next to each heading so you can Combine them with “AND”.

Notice we did not specify anything about the mother or the infant? As we are interested in articles about either.
We now have a set of 49 articles which aren’t so many and you could almost simply scroll through to see if the results are relevant. However, you might find that you just want to focus on Recent Results (in the last five years)

So select 2008 and Current in the Publication year, and then select “Search”

That has eliminated a few articles – so you can be confident all the results are recent.

If you did get too many results (in another search) you could filter your results with a range of available limits:

There are quite a few available via the “Additional limits” (under the search box):
There are several useful options such as:

- Last five years
- Peer reviewed journal
- Age groups (particularly if you’re dealing with specific groups like aged, or children)

But you will find all sorts of options relating to Research, publication types, Language, etc. Just don’t limit to Full text!!! There are so few full text articles available, you will certainly miss out on some great articles available elsewhere.

Also, don’t set too many limits as you may find you end up with too few results. If that happens, go back and select few limits.

If there is another concept you want your article to include, try searching for it and combining it with your set. That will narrow your search as well.

6. Once you have set some limits, hit search and then scroll through your results to see what you have found. You can click on “View Abstract” to see more information about any which look relevant and click on SFX to see if we have the item elsewhere in Full text. You will notice a few with PDFs – which is the Full text.

This one does not, so you would need to try the SFX link:

There are plenty of choices of places to obtain this article. Click on one which says “Full Text available via”... In most cases it will take you directly to the article. Sometimes it may just take you generally to the database but that does not mean the article is not available.
**Worked Example 2 – CINAHL (Ebsco)**

**Search Topic:** Perinatal and infant mental health

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1    | Go to the library home page: [http://www.lib.uts.edu.au/](http://www.lib.uts.edu.au/)  
Click on “Find Databases”  
Select “Health” in the left box in the Databases finding tool, then select “Nursing” (or any of the subheadings). “CINAHL” will be one of the databases in the resulting list. |
| 2    | Once you’re in the database, ensure that “Suggest Subject Terms” is ticked and type in the first term (Perinatal) then hit “Search”  
The following screen results. Select the heading/s which best describes what you’re looking for. Only select more than one if you’re happy for them to be ‘bundled’ together. Click on the “Scope” to see more information about the term.  
I decided to choose “Perinatal Care” and “Perinatal Nursing” from the list. When I tick a heading here it offers available subheadings, but let’s for now just click on Search Database. This retrieves over 4000 records. |
If you wish to select multiple headings, BE CAREFUL that you are happy for them to be bundled together! They will be combined with OR:

3. Now try adding another term... perhaps Mental Health. Do this in the same way as for the first search.

When you select Search Database at the top of the page, it will return to the search page but will show your Search History so far.

You can now combine your two searches together by selecting each and then click on “Search with AND”

This will retrieve a set of 28 results which are not too many to look at. If you wanted to limit further, there are some useful limits down the left column. But don’t do too much to limit as this is not a large set at all.

4. Scroll through the results and try to identify articles which might be relevant for what you are looking for. Sometimes a full text or PDF link will appear in the list. If that’s the case you can simply open it.

To see if we have the full text of anything in the list, click on “Check SFX for availability”. The resulting pop-up screen will indicate if there are any other options for full text available in other databases available through the library. Click on the link and another screen will pop up and should take you directly to the article in the new database. If there are no “Full text” options appearing, you may need to find another article.

However there are two choices for this example:
You can select the articles you want to investigate further later as you scan down the list by selecting where it says “Add to folder”. Once you’ve been through the list you can view all your selections in one list by clicking “Folder View” under “Folder has items” on the right side of the screen. Alternatively go to the very top of the page and click on where it says “Folder”. A list of your selections will appear. From this screen you can save, print, email or export (to Refworks or EndNote) your results. If you want to keep your search for a later occasion, you can set up a personal account in Ebsco – click on where it says “Sign into MyEbscoHost” at the top of the page, and select “Create a new account”
More Search tips

Using Boolean Connectors
After entering your keywords and phrases as separate searches you can combine your searches using Boolean connectors: AND, OR and NOT.

Use **and** between two or more terms to retrieve only those results which contain all of the terms, i.e. the darkest shaded area in the centre of the image below.

Use **or** between synonyms to retrieve all results for every term that is entered.

Use **not** between two terms to retrieve only those results which contain the first term and not the second term.
More Search tips (continued)

Using Truncation
Use truncation to find any ending after the truncation symbol,.
E.g. midw* will retrieve:
- midwife
- midwifery
- midwives

E.g. disab* will retrieve:
- disable
- disabled
- disability
- disabilities

Using Wildcards
Wildcards replace one or no characters within a word wherever the wildcard is placed.
E.g. wom?n retrieve woman or women
orthop?edic retrieves orthopaedic or orthopedic

TIP: Depending on the database, often wildcards need two letters before the wildcard in order to work, so the examples f?etus and p?ediatrics usually won’t work.

Check spelling variations
Check for spelling variations and alternative language. Sometimes English and American spelling differs. E.g. foetus/fetus, breastfeeding/breast feeding.

Use Limit fields
Many databases provide useful limit fields to help you build your search. E.g. limiting by publication year enables you to retrieve only the latest, most up-to-date information. Note that CINAHL has an especially extensive range of limit fields.

Don’t limit to full text: Limiting your search to full text may be tempting but it will actually prevent the very useful SFX tool from working. If full text is not available in the database you’re using, click on the SFX symbol to see if full text is available in another database.
RefWorks vs Endnote

RefWorks and EndNote are software services that will assist you to collect, store, organise and use your references. Both are supported by the library and special training sessions for each are available.

EndNote has been widely adopted by many academics and students at UTS, but RefWorks is proving to be worth considering. There are advantages and disadvantages for each including:

EndNote
- Needs to have software downloaded
- Write and Cite works very well
- PDFs can be added to each record
- Can convert RefWorks libraries into EndNote

RefWorks
- Online – no software to download except for Write and cite add in. Also means it’s easily transferable - easily used on multiple computers and you don’t need to carry your library around on a USB stick or worry about version control.
- Can link with SFX
- Can convert EndNote libraries into RefWorks
- It’s easier to share libraries on RefWorks than on EndNote.

Online tutorials and manuals for both are available via the Library website – or the UTS Library’s YouTube channel

There are classes arranged at both City and Kuring-gai campuses each semester and you can get information about them at this page:

https://www.lib.uts.edu.au/events/tag/endnote
https://www.lib.uts.edu.au/events/referencing

To book, click on one of the headings and select “Register to Attend”.