Search Like A Pro (Business Literature)
By Luo Linyu
You will learn

1. How to find business journal articles and dissertations

2. Methodologies for searching effectively
What is Literature Search?

“Literature search is a systematic and well-organised search from the already published data to identify a breadth of good quality references on a specific topic.”

Types of Published Literature

- Dissertations
- Patents
- Standards
1. Work with your title/topic
   • Identify search terms
   • Identify similar terms/ synonyms/ related terms

2. Select sources
   • FindMore@NUSL
   • Academic Databases

3. Search
   • Apply search techniques (Narrow/broaden)

4. Look at the results?
1. Work with your title/topic

How do environmental and genetic influences shape proactive personality and its relationship to career success?

What are the search terms?
2. Select sources

1. ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global
2. Business Source Premier
3. Search

Let’s try it out!

Login to databases from library homepage:
www.lib.nus.edu.sg
Boolean & Search Operators

**AND**: both terms must be present → fewer results

- Social media
- Public engagement

**OR**: either terms may be present → more results

- Twitter
- Instagram

**NOT**: exclude a term → use with caution

“Phrase searching”
e.g. “social media”

Truncation/wildcard
e.g. engag* retrieves engaging, engage, engagement

Round parentheses ()
To include synonyms/related words
e.g. (twitter OR facebook) AND (non profit OR nonprofit)
4. Look at the results?

Advanced Search  Command Line  Field codes  Search tips

environmental

environmental AND genetic AND influences AND (proactive personality) AND relationship AND (career success)

11,292 results

The effects of the proactive personality on the levels of job satisfaction and burnout for licensed mental health counselors
Spina, Pamela F. Florida Atlantic University, ProQuest Dissertations Publishing, 2013. 3571421.

... career success. Personality characteristics in relation to job and career...
... proactive personality and how it related to personal achievement, satisfaction...
Final Search statement (ProQuest)

(“proactive personality” OR “proactive behavior” OR “proactive attributes” OR “proactive attitudes”) AND Career
How about Business Source Premier?
Results in Business Source Premier

Search Query:
- environmental
- genetic
- influences
- proactive personality
- relationship
- career success

Search Results: 0 hits

No results were found.
Final Search statement (BSP)

(“proactive personality” OR “proactive behavior” OR “proactive attributes” OR “proactive attitudes”)

AND

Career
Time for exercise!
Hands-on exercise

Do a literature search for the topic below:

How does cultural diversity improve innovation and increase group performance?

Tips:
• Identify keywords first
• Apply search techniques
• Look at your results, are they relevant?