Library Research for the DNP

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Objectives

1. Search for published literature effectively and exhaustively
2. Evaluate the evidence
3. Tips for staying organized (and sane!)
4. Citation Management Software
Nursing Resources

Point any browser to Library.waldenu.edu
Click Select a subject - Nursing
Nursing Research Home

https://academicguides.waldenu.edu/library/subject/nursing

The Gold Box searches several databases - a great place to start!

Individual database links

Scroll down for specific Research help
- Literature Review
- Statistics & data
- Theories & theorists
- Tests & measures
- Upcoming webinars
Database Selection
Where to start

- **CINAHL** – Cumulative Index to Nursing & Allied Health Literature
- **Embase** – especially good for EU journals and drug information
- **MEDLINE/PubMed** – use Medline for the easy interface, PubMed for in-process and peripheral items
- **ProQuest Nursing & Allied Health Source** – many journals not covered elsewhere
Search Strategies

- Brainstorm search terms, synonyms, key words
- Try subject indexes – MeSH (Medline) + CINAHL
- Build off previous readings by citation chaining and author following
- Explore multiple databases and resources in other program areas
- Look outside of Walden Library (un-check full text!)
- Use Google Scholar effectively
- Keep track of your searches – what works and what doesn’t
- Set search alerts and/or re-run searches
- Manage your source citations – Guide: Citation Management Software example: Zotero
### Beginning search log example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Database</th>
<th>Search Terms</th>
<th>Results</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CINAHL</td>
<td>leadership AND personality AND managers; limited to peer reviewed, 2014-present</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>term leadership styles used in many articles; possible new search term?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medline</td>
<td>leadership styles AND managers; limited to peer reviewed, 2014-present</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>Lots of hits! Maybe narrow it down?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ProQuest Nursing and Allied Health</td>
<td>leadership styles AND managers AND women; limited to peer reviewed, 2014-present</td>
<td>306</td>
<td>Wow, a lot also including cultural &amp; international issues as well as gender. New direction for my search?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Matrix

The Writing Center’s Organizational Tools page

- 2 examples (PDF)
- 2 templates (Word and Excel)
Citation Management Software

- Stores *metadata* about your resources; option to store PDFs and other snapshots
- Many different products are available – Walden does **not** recommend or require
- The Library’s guide to [Citation Management Software](#) has help and videos for Zotero and Mendeley
- **EndNote** is the most-used *paid* product, with toll-free telephone support and a student discount [www.endnote.com](http://www.endnote.com)
**Get Help!**

**Ask a Librarian**
- Chat hours daily
- Email us 24/7
- Voicemail
- Doctoral research appointments

**Quick Answers**
Well over a thousand answers and counting!
Thank You!

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