Syracuse University Libraries

LIBRARY Exercise

The library activities during this class are multi-parted. You will think about your topic, by establishing key terms or concepts. These terms will be used to search Libraries Search and the library databases. The databases you discover today are just a way for you to get to know a handful that might help during your research. They are not the only databases you should use for your research – just one of many.

Part 1. Establish keywords or concepts

Think about your topic. Write down a few keywords or concepts that describe your topic.

Concept 1 / issue	
PTSD	
OR mental health	
mentarricatin	
AND	
Concept 2 / intervention	
Psychedelics	
OR psilocybin	
OR OR	
hallucinogens	
AND	
Concept 3 / population or setting	
[example: child, teenager, veteran or a setting like	

Part 2 – Search "Libraries Search"

- 1. Type in your choice of keywords from each of the concepts above. Use "OR" to bring together the synonyms of each concept block above. Then use "AND" to bring each of your different concepts together in one strategy. Review and reflect on your results.
 - a. Are there any articles that are a good match? Look at the keywords or subject headings used to describe these articles and add those that are relevant to Part 1.
 - b. Think about how you would modify your search and try this second search in this database. Look over your results and retain relevant articles
 - c. continue until you have exhausted all your search strategies
- 2. Reflect on your overall process. Were there any interesting discoveries?
- 3. Be prepared to share your findings.

Part 3 – Search PsycINFO database and run a search

4. Type in your choice of keywords from each of the concepts above. Use "OR" to bring together all your like terms within the concept block. Then use "AND" to bring each of your different concepts together in one strategy. Review and reflect on your results.

- a. Are there any articles that are a good match? Look at the keywords or subject headings used to describe these articles and add those that are relevant to Part 1.
- b. Think about how you would modify your search and try this second search in this database. Look over your results and retain relevant articles
- c. continue until you have exhausted all your search strategies
- 5. Reflect on your overall process. Were there any interesting discoveries?
- 6. Be prepared to share your findings.

Part 3 – Search a database of choice or one assigned by your librarian

Type in your choice of keywords from each of the concepts above. Use "OR" to bring together all your like terms within the concept block. Then use "AND" to bring each of your different concepts together in one strategy. Review and reflect on your results.

- a. Are there any articles that are a good match? Look at the keywords or subject headings used to describe these articles and add those that are relevant to Part 1.
- b. Think about how you would modify your search and try this second search in this database. Look over your results and retain relevant articles
- c. continue until you have exhausted all your search strategies

Part 4 – Search the next database of your choosing

Type in your choice of keywords from each of the concepts above. Use "OR" to bring together all your like terms within the concept block. Then use "AND" to bring each of your different concepts together in one strategy. Review and reflect on your results.

- d. Are there any articles that are a good match? Look at the keywords or subject headings used to describe these articles and add those that are relevant to Part 1.
- e. Think about how you would modify your search and try this second search in this database. Look over your results and retain relevant articles
- f. continue until you have exhausted all your search strategies