

# Supporting Flexible Learning - Example

- [Non-synchronous structured learning activity.](#)
- [Stand-alone tutorial that can be linked to from Canvas.](#)

## Topic: Exploring Information Types for Education

Stage: 3

Duration: 90 minutes

### Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to:

- locate the Library website to access essential service information
- identify appropriate keywords, synonyms and alternative language to be combined in a successful search
- explain the variety of different types of information and when they are most appropriate to use
- identify appropriate subject specific resources and locate the Cross-Cultural Communication subject guide
- perform a basic search in library search to find books and articles
- describe the different types of information available in Scopus, Proquest Social Sciences Premium Collection, Nexis and explain when they would be appropriate to use
- recognise the need to evaluate the information found and modify search strategies based on the information need
- outline where to go to get help and support with literature searching

### Structure

The tutorial guides students through the essential information sources they will need for their research. It is fully interactive and adopts a task-based approach, giving students the opportunity to search for resources as they progress.

#### **WATCH: Introductory video** (4 minutes)

- Video introduces the background to finding information for your research project and gives an overview for the rest of the tutorial.

#### **Topic 1: Finding Information in Library Search (40 minutes)**

#### **WATCH: [Finding Information: Performing a search](#)** (5 minutes)

- Video explains the basics of performing an effective search and finding the right key words.

**COMPLETE: Activity 1** (5 minutes)

- Students are provided an example topic and asked to provide alternative keywords for one of the topic's concepts.
- Students are prompted to apply the same process to their own research topic.

**EXPLORE: [Finding Information Guide: Get to Know Library Search](#)** (10 minutes)

- Students read advice and tips on the guide.
- Students watch [Finding Information: Library Search video](#) which demonstrates how to find information effectively using Library Search and gives tips for managing the information you find.

**COMPLETE: Activity 2** (5 minutes)

- Students use Library Search (embedded in the tutorial) to find books and journals on the example topic.
- Students answer questions on their search results.

**COMPLETE: Activity 3** (5 minutes)

- Students directed to use advanced search features of Library Search.
- Students answer questions on their search results.

**COMPLETE: Activity 4** (10 minutes)

- Students given direction and prompted to use Library Search to find materials for their own research topic.

**Topic 2: Finding Information using subject databases (46 Minutes)**

**EXPLORE: Subject Guide** (5 minutes)

- Relevant subject guide is embedded into tutorial.
- Guided tour of the guide is provided, highlighting where to find key resources.

**WATCH: [Proquest Social Sciences Premium Collection](#)** (5 minutes)

- Video provides an introduction to using the Proquest Social Sciences Premium Collection.

**COMPLETE: Activity 5** (10 minutes)

- Students follow instructions to conduct a search using an example topic in Proquest.
- Question prompts encourage students to think critically about their search results.
- Students then search Proquest using their own research topic.

**COMPLETE: Activity 6** (10 minutes)

- Students follow instructions to conduct a search on a database within the Proquest Social Sciences Premium Collection: Linguistics and Language Behaviour Abstracts.
- Question prompts encourage students to think critically about their search results.
- Students then search this database using their own topic.

**WATCH:** [Scopus – how to conduct a basic search](#) (3 minutes)

- Following introductory text explaining the benefits of Scopus, Video shows how to complete a simple search in the database.

**WATCH:** [Scopus – how to expand your search](#) (3 minutes)

- Video shows how to expand search results, using reference lists and cited by searching.

**COMPLETE:** **Activity 7** (5 minutes)

- Students are directed to use Scopus to find an article on their topic that they have already identified in Library Search, then to use the reference and citing features to identify other articles of use.

**EXPLORE:** **Resource Guides** (5 Minutes)

- Introduces the Resource Guides.
- Highlights where to find resource guides from the subject guide page.
- Asks a range of questions about different guides to encourage students to explore the range available.

**CREATE:** **Next Steps - Search Planner**

- The tutorial ends by directing students to fill in the [Library's Search Planner](#) to guide them through the steps of identifying key concepts, breaking down concepts into keywords, selecting the resources to search, and deciding how to manage information.

### **Assessment opportunities**

- The tutorial is self-marking, providing useful formative feedback.
- Completed Search Plans can be submitted to the Liaison team for formative feedback.