

UBC Library

URO Workshop: Literature Review Basics

1. Find the **research guide** for your topic: <http://guides.library.ubc.ca/>
Review the article indexes listed on the Articles tab. Which other Indexes and Databases might be useful for your research? Do they have a subject heading/controlled vocabulary structure (tip: you may see a [Thesaurus](#) listed)? Try a search for your topic - how can you create a comprehensive search in this database?
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2. Use the Article Index: **PsycInfo** to find a **literature review** of different **treatments** for **schizophrenia**. What are some strategies for improving your results? eg. Does truncation¹ work? Can you do field searching? Can you limit to review papers? Does proximity searching work? What limiters can I use?
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3. In **Web of Science**, find the **most highly cited journal articles** on a topic of interest to you or try a search *face recognition*.

What are some strategies for improving your results? eg. Does truncation¹ work? Is there a thesaurus/subject headings? Can you do field searching? Can you limit to review papers? Does proximity searching work? What limiters can I use?

4. Find journal articles, indexed in **Web of Science**, and **written by a specific UBC author**. For example, find articles by your mentor (or try UBC Faculty of Land and Food Systems professor Dr. Eunice Li-Chan. (Hint: the Address field contains the information about the authors' institution. Note, the format of information is important!))²
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¹ Truncation: <http://guides.library.ubc.ca/tutorial-nurs/truncation>

² Finding Research by UBC Professors: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hVp99FslbIA>

5. Using the open access biomedical database **PubMed**, try a search to find evidence of whether chocolate can prevent cancer.

- Type: cancer prevention chocolate
- Compare with your results when you type: (cancer OR neoplasms) prevention chocolate

Why are the results different? [Click on **Search Details** > **See More**]

Validate your search to find the best evidence by looking up your search terms in the MeSH database: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/mesh>

Explore the Limits. How can I limit my search to article type to include Review papers, Systematic Reviews and Meta Analysis?

And More . . .

Guides:

- linked from the Research Guides portal (<http://guides.library.ubc.ca/>)
 - Literature Reviews: <http://guides.library.ubc.ca/litreviews>
 - Systematic Reviews Search Methodology: <http://guides.library.ubc.ca/SystematicReviews>
- linked from the Help page (<http://help.library.ubc.ca/>):
 - Publishing a Journal Article
 - Building Your Academic Profile
 - Citation Analysis and Impact Factors
 - Research Data Management

Tutorials

- <http://help.library.ubc.ca/planning-your-research/tutorials/>

Workshops:

- Workshops calendar: <http://events.library.ubc.ca/libs/>
 - including Citation Management, SPSS, R, Literature Reviews, Build your Academic Profile, etc.