Searching for scientific information and citation basis - Design Project

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Information retrieval strategy

1. Define the topic in the form of a question
2. Pull out the main concepts, keywords
3. Think of synonyms and related concepts
4. Write a search equation
5. Use multiple resources
Information retrieval strategy

1. Define the topic in the form of a question
   *Develop a methodology to reduce the concentration of micropollutants in wastewater.*
   *How to treat wastewater to remove micropollutants?*

2. Pull out the main concepts, keywords
   *Wastewater / Micropollutant / Treat / Remove*

3. Think of synonyms and related concepts
   *“Sewage Sludge” / Saniti* / Process* / Extracti* / Method*

4. Write a search equation
   *\((Process^* \ OR \ Method^*) \ AND \ ("Wastewater \ treatment" \ OR \ "Wastewaters \ treatment" \ OR \ Wastewater^*) \ AND \ Micropollu^*\)*
Information retrieval strategy

2. Pull out the main concepts, keywords
   \textit{Wastewater}/ \textit{Micropollutant}/ \textit{Treat}/ \textit{Remov}*

3. Think of synonyms and related concepts
   « \textit{Sewage Sludge} » / \textit{Saniti}*/ / \textit{Process}*/ / \textit{Extracti}*/ / \textit{Method}*

4. Write a search equation
   (\textit{Process}*/ OR \textit{Method}*) AND ("\textit{Wastewater treatment}" OR "\textit{Wastewaters treatment}" OR \textit{Wastewater}*) AND \textit{Micropollu}*

5. Use multiple resources
Boolean operators and more

**AND** to combine key concepts

**OR** to add key concepts

**NOT** to exclude concepts

() to group concepts

* to replace one or several characters

«» to create an expression
Choosing information resources

- **Use** scientific resources
  - Encyclopaedies
  - Books
  - Articles
  - Conference papers
  - Thesis
  - Patents
  - [https://www.epfl.ch/campus/library/collections/](https://www.epfl.ch/campus/library/collections/)

- **Web of Science™**
- **BEAST discovery tool**
  - [https://go.epfl.ch/beast-catalog](https://go.epfl.ch/beast-catalog)

- **Cross-check information**
  - Is the information reliable, valid, objective and accurate?
    - ✓ Is the information up-to-date?
    - ✓ Who is the author?
The EPFL library offers several resources to help you with: why, when and how to cite your sources

- Bibliotheque_EPFL_Guide_Rational_Bibliographic.pdf
- Guides, recommended tools and tutorials – Library - EPFL
- Essential_Bibliographic_Versionanglais_2021003 (1).pdf
Contact us

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