“Blue Trefoil Knot” by Jim.belk is Public Domain.
session outline

Part I: Talking about Research
Part II: Hands-on Searching
Part III: Finding Articles on Your Topic

we will cover

Basics of research articles
Differentiating between primary research, secondary research, and non-research articles
Seminal articles
Finding the right terminology for your search (MeSH, CINAHL Subject Headings, tags)
Narrowing your search (how many search results will you review (100, 1,000, 100,000, 1,000,000?)
Best places to begin your search
Citation tracing - backwards and forwards
Making Google Scholar work for you
Getting your hands on the full text of articles (and when to use interlibrary loan)
RefWorks
APA formatting assistance available from UNC Libraries
Find Articles & Information

CINAHL Plus with Full Text
Premier nursing literature database in the world. Find research articles, industry information, and more. Always start your searches here - this is literature for nurses by nurses.

PubMed
Premier medical literature database in the world. Watch out for articles in foreign languages. PubMed is a completely free database that anyone can use, but to link into UNC full text articles or to request specific articles, login with the username klawz and the password library. Find research articles - all journals indexed in PubMed are peer reviewed.

PsycINFO
Premier psychological literature database in the world. Because nurses, more than physicians and many other healthcare providers, deal with the psychology of their patients.

UpToDate
UpToDate is an at-the-point-of-care tool. Find symptoms, diagnostic tools, treatment options, and so much more full text in this tool. This is a great place to find pharmaceutical information too.
Experiments and observations are the fundamental building blocks for scientific knowledge - knowledge that informs data-driven decision making and evidence-based practice. Scientists often tell each other of their experiments and observations through research articles published in peer-reviewed journals. Research articles are formatted in a very specific manner that follows the process of the research process. Below are the eight sections seen in most research articles.


2019 update
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Professors, social scientists, scientists, and experts use categories and terminology to describe types of literature. It is important to be familiar with and understand this terminology when conducting research and evaluating information sources. This is an especially useful tool for any student writing an annotated bibliography.