

## **Appendix A - BIS 300 Library Research Refresher: Campus Library Resources**

This activity is often one of the first refresher activities that students complete, offered in the form of a Canvas graded survey. The introductory text offers librarians a template that may be customized as much as they choose in order to meet the needs of the particular section and students. The activity itself asks students to engage with questions related to their previous library use as well as resources available in the UW Bothell Campus Library. The bolding is used to emphasize words/phrases for student engagement and understanding.

### Introductory Text

Hello! My name is [insert name] and I'm the librarian working with your BIS 300: Interdisciplinary Inquiry course this quarter. We'll be working together during {x} library workshops this quarter - the first one on {y}.

[insert librarian photo/video]

The Campus Library (<http://library.uwb.edu/>) **supports all students** at the University of Washington Bothell and Cascadia College. Whether you are a regular library user or are new to campus, we have many resources to support you in current courses and future academic work.

The following activities will review and check your understanding of library services and academic research skills in preparation for your research in BIS 300 this quarter.

### Four-year UW Bothell Students

Welcome back! You've likely been using the library already for research in your courses and worked with a librarian in your Discovery Core and/or BWRIT 135 classes. Some of this activity may be review but will all be applicable to the research work you'll do in BIS 300.

### Transfer students

Welcome - we're glad you're here! All librarians at the Campus Library work to support students in their academic success. BIS 300 is one of the courses in which librarians collaborate closely with students and faculty to assist in your interdisciplinary research. The following activities will introduce to you Campus Library resources and review some research skills useful to you in this course. For more information and resources specific to transfer students, check out this page: You're A Husky Now (<http://webster.uaa.washington.edu/transfer/stages/youre-a-husky-now/>)

### All students

I am your course librarian and you can contact me directly by email (your email) or Canvas message at any point this quarter. **I look forward to working with you!**

### Questions

#### 1) Previous library use

If you're new to the Campus Library, what is one way you used the library at your previous school or college?

If you've already used the Campus Library, what is one service or resource you have utilized?

### **Campus Library: Video Tour**

Next, as a review of the resources that are available to you at the Campus Library, please watch this library tour video: <https://youtu.be/anOm8UweyQo>

- 2) What is one thing that librarians at the Campus Library can assist you with?
- 3) What is one thing that Campus Library tech consultants can assist you with?
- 4) What are two things you can find on the third floor of the Campus Library?

### **Online Links and Resources**

The Campus Library tour video shows you **study rooms** that you can reserve and makes mention of **online chat** (24/7! free!) with a librarian. Links to both of these services are available on the top right of Campus Library homepage: <http://library.uwb.edu>

- 5) Another resource provided via the Campus Library website is **Research Guides**, often useful when researching within a particular subject or discipline for a class assignment. They contain links to resources like databases, websites, and other information **specifically chosen by campus librarians**.

To locate the research guides, start on the Campus Library homepage (<http://library.uwb.edu>) and then "Research Guides by Subject" under Resources. You'll then see a list of various subjects and disciplines - you'll click on them to see the specific guides that are available. What is one specific guide that you think may be **useful to your research** in this BIS 300 class?

- 6) Do you have any questions about using the Campus Library or receiving help from library staff members?

## Appendix B - BIS 300 Library Research Refresher: Boolean Search Strategies

This is another of the refresher activities, often completed as students are beginning to search databases to find articles for their research. The questions here address the core Boolean concepts that are most useful to students and are often emphasized in first-year information literacy instruction. The multiple choice options allow students to check their understanding by showing correct and incorrect answers once the practice quiz is submitted in Canvas. The bolding is used to emphasize words/phrases for student engagement and understanding.

### Introductory Text

One skill that will be important for your success in conducting research in BIS 300 is **Boolean searching**. (Why's it called Boolean? George Boole ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George\\_Boole](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Boole)) invented it!)

**Boolean Searching** is the process of linking keywords together in special ways to get the most useful results from searching databases and catalogs. Learning Boolean searching will help you find both effective search results and the best research materials for your final paper.

### **Boolean Searching Online Tutorials**

Step 1: Watch Virginia Commonwealth University Libraries' Boolean Operators Tutorial.

<https://youtu.be/ffw70AU9pc0>

Alternate option: here is a self-paced tutorial you can click through instead: Introduction to Boolean Logic by PubMed ([https://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/disted/pubmedtutorial/020\\_350.html](https://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/disted/pubmedtutorial/020_350.html))

Step 2: In addition to what you have just learned, there are four more search tricks you'll need to know!

1. Put **quotations** ("" ) around phrases  
**example: "African American"** not **African American**  
If a phrase, or single concept with two words, is not searched in quotation marks, the systems default search may combine the terms with AND or OR which may lead to unwanted results.
2. Use the **asterisk**(\*) as a wildcard.  
**example: rac\***  
This tells the catalog or database to look for various forms of the word: race, racism, racist, etc.
3. Use parentheses ( ) to group keywords, especially synonyms  
**example: (race OR ethnicity) AND gender**

4. It is easiest to always capitalize AND, OR, & NOT. Some databases require it; some don't, so I think it's best to always capitalize instead of trying to remember which is which!

As a summary, I think the way one of my former professors summed this up is useful: "We want to search for concepts but we're forced to search for words," he said. **Boolean searching helps us combine those words as effectively as possible to generate results with the concepts we need.**

Next, you'll answer some questions to **check your understanding** of Boolean searching.

- 1) If I need to search for articles that are **related to coffee as well as tea**, what would be a useful search strategy?
  - a) coffee AND tea (correct response)
  - b) coffee, tea
  - c) coffee OR tea
  - d) coffee & tea
  
- 2) If I need to search for articles that are **related to either coffee or tea**, what would be a useful search strategy?
  - a) coffee AND tea
  - b) coffee OR tea (correct response)
  - c) either coffee or tea
  - d) articles about coffee or tea
  
- 3) Which answer best shows how to use an **asterisk to truncate** a search?
  - a) caffein\* (correct response)
  - b) caffeinated\*
  
- 4) What purpose does putting **quotation marks** around two or more words serve when you're searching in a database? **Example:** "boston tea party"
  - a) It tells the database you're searching a direct quotation
  - b) It serves as a phrase search and tells the database you want those exact words in that order (correct response)

Nice work! You can **review the tutorials** at the beginning of this activity if you need more practice with Boolean search techniques. You can also look at this **page** [link to Database Search Strategies libguide page] **on your class guide**. Always ask a librarian if you have future questions about how to use Boolean searches!