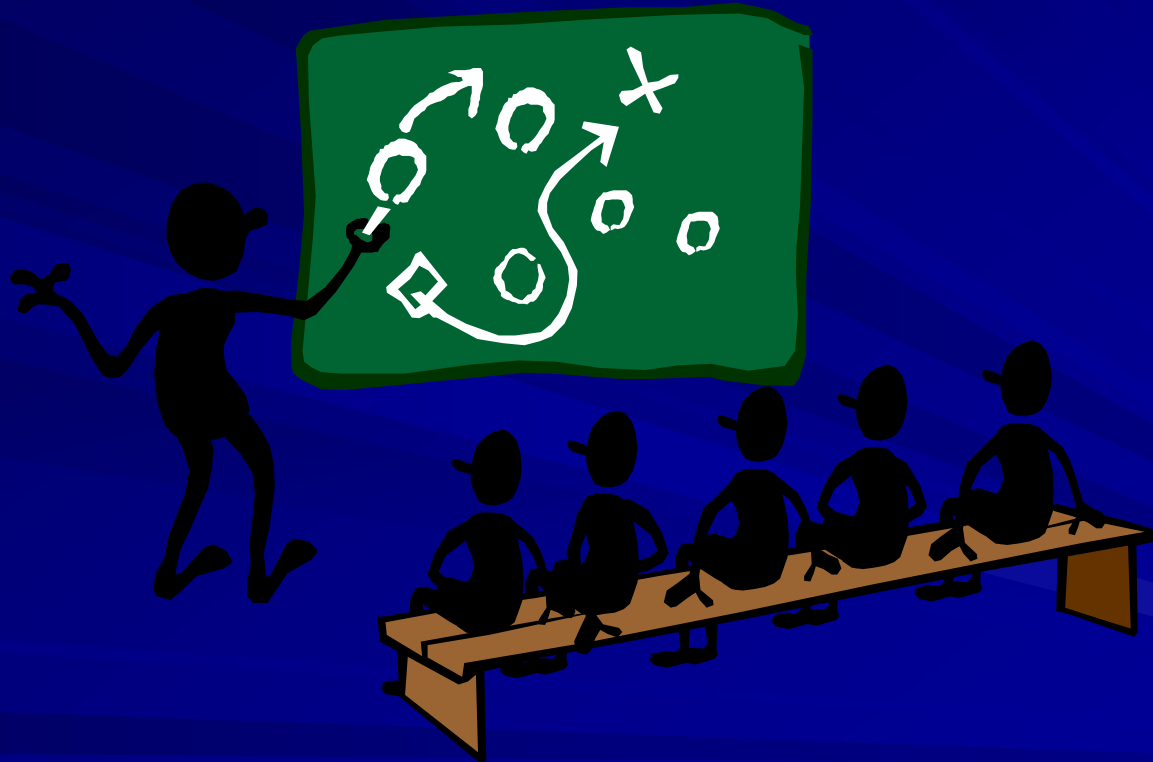


# Research in the Online Environment: Tips from the Tulane University Health Sciences Center Library



Which picture describes you?

# Develop a Search Strategy



# SEARCHING

- What am I looking for? And how do I get the computer to understand and give me what I want?
  - Reviews, studies, guidelines, statistics, gender, age, species, location, adverse effects, risks, therapy, etiology, prevention, history, peer-reviewed
- How to communicate with the computer:
  - uterine AND carcinoma AND metastasis AND brain
  - diseases AND (infectious OR communicable)
  - “municipal water supply”
  - industr\* (looks for industry, industries, industrial, etc)
  - (biological AND chemical NOT radiological)

# SEARCHING

- MeSH, Mapping, Alternate spellings
  - Try to use terms that the database is based upon
- Searching
  - Basic or quick
  - Advanced or guided searching will make your results more precise or relevant
- Ability to limit
- Many databases will allow to save searches to run another time
- Many databases also allow you to set up and receive alerts on a topic or journal contents
- Is the database solely citations and abstracts?
  - If so, finding full-text will require additional steps
- Full-text can come in HTML or PDF format

# Use Various Databases/Sources



# Popular Library Resources

- ABI/Inform
- AccessMedicine
- ACS Journals
- Cambridge Sci Abstracts
- CINAHL
- Cochrane Database
- EBSCO
- H. W. Wilson Abstracts
- Journal Citation Reports
- Lexis-Nexis
- MDConsult
- OVID
- PsycINFO
- PubMed
- Science Direct
- Sociological Abstracts
- Stat!Ref
- Web Of Science

DynaMed | PIER | UpToDate

# Google vs. the Library



# Google vs. the Library

- If you must use Google – use Google Scholar, <http://scholar.google.com>
- Compared to the overall web, you have a better chance of finding credible material from organizations, research centers or institutes, and government agencies.
- If you are on the TU network, you will be able to access a substantial amount of full-text material.

# A little advice

- Firewall blocking you from the proxy server – contact us
- Be cautious of inactivity time out or session timers
  - You can lose your search results easily
- Please logoff or exit when finished
  - Some databases only allow a certain number of people at one time
- Read the database summary or scope note to see if it will be useful
- Look for related or similar article links
- Look for hyperlinks in the references or bibliography
- Properly cite your sources!  
[http://www.turnitin.com/research\\_site/e\\_citation.html](http://www.turnitin.com/research_site/e_citation.html)
  - All Tulane Libraries have citation manuals on the major styles or use one of our citation managers (see next screen)

# Citation Management

- RefWorks and EndNote Web allow you to:
  - store and manage your citations
  - quickly format and share bibliographies
  - write papers while citing them instantly.

# Contact Us

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