Researching UOW – Helpful Pathways

START with the search tips and links on the How to Find UOW History, Facts & Figures guide on the Library homepage under Guides → By Topic. Some key tips are also listed here below.

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**For UOW information**

- Browse and search the UOW web site for UOW documents/recent reports/key statistics/media releases/newsletters
- Search the Library’s UOW Digital Archive and the Library Catalogue for older UOW reports/statistics/newsletters
- Search the Proquest ANZ Newsstand database OR Factiva database for recent news articles about UOW in the Illawarra Mercury and other newspapers
- Browse older hardcopy news clippings in the University Archives (need to arrange with Archivist in advance)

**Consider!** - are statistics likely to be collected on your topic and at the level of detail you need? If so:
  - **Who** might collect this type of data?
  - **Where** might it be available?
  - **What** headings might it be under?  
  (use your search strategy worksheet to note possible search terms)

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**For HIGHER EDUCATION sector information**

- Browse and search the DEEWR, ABS and other education related web sites for documents/reports/statistics
- Search the Library Catalogue for books and reports about higher education
- Search the Proquest ANZ Newsstand database OR Factiva database for recent news articles about Australian universities/students/staffing issues
- Search the A+Education and APAFT (Australian) databases for journal articles about higher education
  Also search the Proquest Central and Academic Onefile (international) databases for any Australian coverage

**Remember!** - with any reports, books or journal articles you do find, check their bibliographies for mention of other useful sources

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**Need More Help?** Contact local library staff at your respective UOW campus library in the first instance or check the options under the ‘Ask a Librarian’ button on the Library home page.
Developing Your Search Strategy

Example topic:

Use of childcare facilities at the University of Wollongong

Keywords or phrases for this topic:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Keywords</th>
<th>Examples of alternative terms for these Keywords</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>university of wollongong</td>
<td>OR wollongong university OR university OR campus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AND</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>childcare</td>
<td>OR child care OR child minding OR families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AND</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>facilities</td>
<td>OR services OR Kids Uni</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When developing a search strategy, think about using:

- subject dictionaries or encyclopaedias for background information
- alternative keywords or alternative concepts
- related names or phrases (eg. “Kid’s Uni”)
- different spellings
- a truncation symbol to broaden your results eg. child* finds child, children, childcare etc. (note: truncation symbols can vary in different databases)
- broader terms if you find only a few results
- narrower terms if you find too many results

What are my keywords or phrases for my own topic?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Search Strategy Keywords</th>
<th>Possible Alternative Terms for each Keyword</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>university of wollongong</td>
<td>OR wollongong university OR university</td>
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I’ve got my keywords. Now where should I try searching?

START with the search tips and links on the research guide available under the Library homepage → Guides → By Topic → UOW History, Facts & Figures guide