Academic Search Complete Worksheet

KEYWORD SEARCH

Your research topic: Race

PART 1: Performing a keyword search.

Start with one keyword or keyword phrase: ______________________________

   How many articles did you retrieve? ___________
   If you returned zero, check your spelling or use another keyword.

PART 2: Refining your search with Boolean, broaden or narrow.

Based upon your results in part one, you will EITHER broaden or narrow your search, not both.

BROADEN:
   If you had less than 20 articles, broaden your search by adding a synonymous or related term by using the Boolean operator, OR.
   Terms: __________________________________ OR __________________________________

   How many articles now? _________

NARROW:
   If you had more than 20 articles, refine by adding another keyword or keyword phrase using the Boolean operator, AND.
   Terms: __________________________________ AND __________________________________

   How many articles now? _________

PART 3: Refining further by adding a subject.

Select a subject heading (found to the left of your search results), once you’ve clicked the subject it will be added automatically to your search.

What subject heading did you select? ______________________________

Now how many articles did you get? ______________________________
SEARCH STRATEGY BUILDING

PART 4: Performing a new search utilizing various limiters.

Begin a new search using your keyword phrase on your research topic.

What was your keyword phrase? ______________________________________

Check the Full Text Limiter Box

How many articles do you retrieve? ____________

With your keyword phrase, click the blue Search Options Link (found to the right of your search results) and add Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals to your search.

How many articles do you retrieve? ____________

Keeping your keyword phrase refine your search with a geography limiter (found to the left of your search results).

What region did you select? __________________

How many articles do you retrieve? ____________

Finally, refine your search using the Date Slide (found to the right of your search results) using years of your choice.

What years did you select? __________________

How many articles do you retrieve? ____________

PART 5: Examining an article citation.

Within your final results, select an article and examine the citation information.

What is the periodical title? ____________________________________________

What is the length of this article? __________________

What years are available in paper? __________________

What years are available online? __________________

In ASC, what full-text format is available for this article? __________________