AIT Library

Tutorial for student Hand-out Notes
**Boolean Operators**

Boolean Operators are used to connect and define the relationship between your search terms. When searching electronic databases, you can use Boolean operators to either narrow or broaden your record sets. The three Boolean operators are **AND**, **OR** and **NOT**.

**AND**

Use **AND** to narrow your search: all of your search terms will present in the retrieved records.

The oval in the middle of the Venn diagram below represents the result set for this search. It is the combination of these two search terms.

Example: Online courses AND academic performance

![Venn diagram](image)

**OR**

Use **OR** to broaden your search by connecting two or more synonyms.

Example: online courses OR Web-based instruction OR distance education

The database retrieves all the unique records containing one term, the other, or both.

**NOT**

Use **NOT** to exclude term(s) from your search results.

Example: higher education NOT community colleges
Exercise

Suggest 2 or 3 appropriate keywords or Key phrases for a database search when researching the topic below

Discuss the necessity for health and safety practices and training by students in science laboratory settings. Use recent scholarly journals to support your viewpoint
Exercise 2

Run a database search on either EBSCO or Health Research Premium or Science Direct or PubMed for the essay title below and open one full text example

Explore recent studies on flavonoids in food products and outline the health benefits that can result from flavonoids in the diet.

Discuss the benefits and risks of folic acid food fortification policy

Discuss the possible impact of food price promotions on healthy eating

Discuss the evidence for the use of antioxidants to promote health

Discuss the evidence for the use of folic acid to promote health