



University of KwaZulu-Natal Library, Howard College

## Nursing

### Literature Searching

#### **LITERATURE SEARCHING**

This is the systematic identification and location of resources and information related to an area of research. Using the following steps will help you to do this:

##### **Define your topic**

- Think critically about the information needed

##### **Analyse your topic**

- Identify key concepts
- Identify the parameters and scope of the topic. e.g. time frame, geographical area, etc.

**Identify keywords** using your key concepts. These keywords will be used to search the relevant resources.

- Keywords must be specific
- Keywords must encapsulate the topic
- Synonyms are useful

##### **Consider the different types of sources available**

- Books
- Journals/Periodicals
- Theses/Dissertations
- Government papers
- Legal documents
- Conference proceedings

##### **Locate the items you require**

- Source books from UKZN libraries / inter-library loans
- Use databases / internet to access online resources

##### **Read, evaluate and absorb the material!**

##### **Manage your references and citations**

- Use bibliographic management packages e.g. RefWorks or EndNote
- Use library referencing guides (in print or on the library website)