**Key Word Search Tips from the Wakefield Library**

1. Research Question:
2. From your research question, write the major concepts (single words or short phrases) below:

* Major Concept #1:
* Major Concept #2:
* Major Concept #3:

1. For each major concept, find synonyms or other search terms that might be useful as **key words.** You may continue to add to this list:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Concept #1 | Concept #2 | Concept #3 |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

1. These concepts and synonyms are “key words” to use in your Search.  
   (Boolean search in Databases)  
     
    **AND AND  
    AND OR  
    OR NOT**

**Final Points:**

* Databases only search the identifying information of an article (title, author, journal etc.) and the abstract.
* Think both broad and narrow. For example: mental health. Articles about mental health may include topics about depression even though depression is not mentioned in the title or the abstract.