# Literature Search Plan

**Search for information about your subject. Make your search query as precise as possible and narrow the question in terms of location, language, etc.**

What exactly do you want to explore? Formulate the question as clearly as possible.

**Write your research question here.**

### Step 1

**Refine your question into keywords (see** [**How to search: search terms)**](https://leren.windesheim.nl/d2l/le/lessons/56374/topics/552024)

Step 2  
**Make a list of relevant search terms.**  
  
Use synonyms, translations, broader or narrower terms, etc. (see [How to search: search terms](https://leren.windesheim.nl/d2l/le/lessons/56374/topics/552024)).

Write the terms in the table below.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Search term** | **Search term** | **Search term** | **Search term** |
| **Synonyms** |  |  |  |  |
| **Broader, narrower terms** |  |  |  |  |
| **Professional terms** |  |  |  |  |
| **Translations** |  |  |  |  |
| **Abbreviations** |  |  |  |  |

### Step 3

**Combine the search terms using the Boolean operators AND, OR, NOT and apply search techniques** (see Searching for information ([How to search: Search techniques](https://leren.windesheim.nl/d2l/le/lessons/56374/topics/552025)).

Begin by searching for information. Beforehand, consider where you intend to search (see [Searching for information: What are you looking for?](https://leren.windesheim.nl/d2l/le/lessons/56374/topics/552020)).

Keep a record of any sources you think may be useful for your research.

By documenting them as shown below, you will ensure you have all the details required for referencing your sources in APA style.

From a **book** on paper or online write down**:**  
Author  
Title  
Year of publication  
Publisher  
Online: consult date and URL

From a **journal article** on paper or online write down:  
Author  
Title article  
Year of publication article  
Magazine title  
Volume  
Number  
First page, last page of the article  
Online: consult date and URL or DOI

From a **web pag**e write down:  
Author  
Year and date of publication  
Title of the web page

Website name  
Consult date  
URL of the web page

**Step 4**  
**Select and evaluate the information you found.**  
  
Apply the 1st and 2nd check for books and magazines and use the CRAAP test for web pages (see [Assessing and selecting information](https://leren.windesheim.nl/d2l/le/lessons/56374/units/552004)).  
   
  
**Step 5**  
**Process the information**  
  
Make a reference of the sources you can use and compile the list of sources (see [Processing information](https://leren.windesheim.nl/d2l/le/lessons/56374/units/552005)).