
Courses for Graduate Schools: GHS and GCB

Systematic literature searching for health and biomedical scientists: clinical databases

Kristina Palmer, MS, LIS, Information Specialist, University of Bern Medical Library

Course description:

This course builds on basic knowledge in searching the biomedical literature in bibliographic databases like Medline, Embase or Web of Science. This training course will focus on a “systematic” search approach and address the challenges of developing complex search strategies to capture research topics in biomedicine by using different techniques. The knowledge of advanced searching skills is important for dissertations, review projects and for all scientific publications. Participants will undertake exercises in translating research topics into structured formats and develop search strategies by using all state-of-the-art search functions in the biomedical database Medline (through PubMed and Ovid). The advanced search techniques include the use of controlled vocabulary (thesaurus terms from the MeSH database) as well as text words and database-specific search syntax. Text mining techniques utilizing multiple tools will be demonstrated for strategy design. Participants will conduct training examples on their laptops in the hands-on sessions, they will perform search strategies in teams, demonstrate and discuss their search strategy and results. Participants can provide search examples from their own research topics.

<i>Trainer:</i>	Kristina Palmer, MS, LIS, Information Specialist, University of Bern Medical Library
<i>Target Group :</i>	Graduate students from GHS and GCB
<i>Language:</i>	English
<i>Number of Participants:</i>	20
<i>Requirements :</i>	Laptop
<i>Date:</i>	October 19, 2022 9 h – 15 h (incl. 1 h lunch break)
<i>Location:</i>	Universität Bern, Mittelstrasse 43, 3012 Bern, Room 320
<i>ECTS:</i>	0.5