**Planning your Search Strategy**

**This activity has three parts.**

1. Choose **key terms** and **concepts** from your **research question**.
2. Generate **additional terms** to use for searching.
3. Select a **database** and conduct your search.

**Part 1. Research question**

What is your research question? Write it in the space below.

Example: Why do high school students who experience depression also feel a sense of shame?

Now, pick out some key terms for your topic.

Example: high school students, depression, shame

**Part 2. Additional terms**

**Next, are there any additional terms, concepts, words, or synonyms that you can use? Write those down in the space below.**

**Example: teen, adolescent, mental health, stigma**

**Now, put your words together using different operators like OR or AND.**

**Example: (high school students OR teen OR adolescent) AND (depression OR mental health) AND (shame OR stigma)**

**Part 3. Select and search**

**Now choose a database where you can look for resources. Some places you might start are MasterFILE Complete (from NebraskAccess) and Google Scholar.**

**Which resource did you choose? List it in the space below.**

**Conduct your search. Were you able to find relevant sources?**

**Yes**

**Write down the title and author for two articles here.**

**Article 1:**

**Article 2:**

**No**

**Revise the terms you used in your search and try again.**

**Example: Try broadening the search by eliminating one of the concepts in your search string—(high school students OR teen OR adolescent) AND (depression OR mental health)**

***Worksheet adapted from the University of Arizona Libraries’ tutorial: “How Do I Create a Search Strategy” https://new.library.arizona.edu/tutorials/create-search-strategy/#/***