What to Know About Search Queries

The starting (and potential ending) point of a user’s research is with their initial query of your library’s resources. How they search and build connections is a make or break in resource usage and library expectations.

Search is more than just articles and journals.

Users expect to access a range of information when searching.

**Search Results**

Different people. Different query strategies. Indeed, users expect to access a range of information when searching.

Different people. Different query strategies.

Sources


https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/3ee6/9a26ae7d867784a5856cdd975de04febcd63.pdf


Many students are new to disciplines and do not know the "correct" words to use to search. If users don’t know synonyms of the terms they query, they might miss important content or retrieve results that are not contextually relevant to their discipline.

Query expansion takes an amateur search and translates it into the appropriate academic terminology so they do not miss out on relevant results.

For example, the word “Taxonomy” has a different meaning in English vs. Library Sciences vs. e-Commerce.