

A: Goals

1. Which databases are best for *efficiently* finding economics journal articles?
2. What does *peer-reviewed* mean, and how can I recognize an article that is academic and peer reviewed?
3. How can I search more efficiently than just random keyword searching?
4. If we have time: discussions re: citing sources, relevant results, data sources, etc.

B: Discussions

1. Peer refereed/reviewed

- a. What do “peer refereed” & “peer reviewed” mean?”
- b. Why does it matter if an article has been peer refereed/reviewed?
- c. How can you recognize a peer-reviewed article or journal?

2. Comparing databases

In groups of 2 or 3, search for information on the *demand elasticity of vegetables* in one database (assigned by me), then answer questions about that database on the next page. (5 minutes)

- Be prepared to share your results with the class.
- If you finish early, explore another database on the list.

Does your assigned database...

a. focus solely on journal articles in economics ? If not, what other subjects and resource types (books, working papers, etc.) does it cover, and can you limit your results to only economics articles?	coverage
b. provide the fulltext of all the articles in your result list? If not, does it provide a way to check for fulltext access to each article via the SFU Library?	fulltext
c. list the most relevant search results first? If not, is there a way to choose that option?	ranking
d. make it simple to “ cycle ” your search by... subjects / authors / references / citing articles / other?	cycling
e. have any other interesting content or functionality features that you can share? For example, will it create an APA citation for each article, or does it only provide articles from a limited year range?	extra

	coverage	fulltext	ranking	cycling	extra
JSTOR					
EconLit					
Google Scholar					
Library Catalogue					
IDEAS					
???					

3. Extra (if time)

- a. On **citing**: *Why* do you need to cite your sources accurately?
- b. On **relevance**: The first article you find is rarely the most relevant.
- c. On **books**: What role do books play in research?
- d. On **data**: Data Planet (and beyond)