

A: Goals

1. Learn about at least two databases that are useful for *efficiently* finding economics journal articles.
2. Learn how to search more efficiently than just random keyword searching.
3. If we have time: discuss topics such as citing sources, relevancy, data sources, etc.

B: Discussions

1. **Comparing databases: Does each 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 <i>functionality</i> features? For example, will it create an APA citation for each article? Does it only provide articles from a limited year range?	extra

	coverage	fulltext	ranking	cycling	extra
EconLit					
JSTOR					

	coverage	fulltext	ranking	cycling	extra
Library Catalogue					
IDEAS					
???					

2. Extra (if time)

- a. On **citing**: *Why* do you need to cite your sources accurately? Are auto-generated citations acceptable?
- 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): bit.ly/sfu-dataplanet
