Google Search Tips!

Before searching in Google Scholar using plain language, consider crafting your search with specific techniques to retrieve more relevant results.

AND is implied in Google searches and therefore is not necessary.

Separate searches for [environmental policy] and [environmental AND policy] will retrieve the same results

Quotation marks (" ") will limit your search to a specific phase.

["climate change"] will search for results with this exact phase. A search for [climate change] will search for results with instances of both the words climate and change, and retrieve such unrelated results as "The political climate has changed since the adoption of free trade."

OR helps you search using multiple words which express a similar concept. OR must be capitalized so Google understands this is a searching word, not a word to be searched.

For example, [teenager OR adolescent OR youth]

["climate change" or "global warming"]

Word order and word choice are important.

[Genetic engineering] and [engineering genetics] will retrieve different results

Asterisks (*) will retrieve words with multiple endings.

Canad* will retrieve Canada, Canadian, and Canadians

feminis* will retrieve feminism, feminisms, feminist, and feminists

(~) helps you to search for synonyms and can help you locate words with similar meanings.

~car will retrieve automobile, vehicle