The goal of this presentation is, to demonstrate the importance of using subject terms in an online database search, and of interacting with the search results to refine the search.

We are using the CUNE online database Academic Search Premier (ASP) found at http://www.cune.edu/librarydatabases > Academic Search Premier.
ASP explains how to search – click on the Help button to find tutorials and explanations of database features.

To search effectively in an online database, begin with the main concepts in the research question. Our research question is: What is an example of a scholarly research study on nutrition? The two main concepts are nutrition and research study.

In order to identify search terms representing the first main concept in our research question, we can search for subject terms in the Subject Terms index.
By using subject terms we can retrieve more relevant results since all article contents are represented by one or more subject term; we can also find broader, narrower, or related subject terms.
Since subject terms are controlled vocabulary, we need to use the Subject Terms index, or we can discover them in our search results.

After identifying a subject term for our first main concept, we can next identify search terms representing the second main concept in our research question, which is research study.
Research studies are usually based on a question or objective -- the author gathers data to answer the question. They are usually divided into sections called objective, methods, results, and conclusion. It’s highly likely these terms will appear in the abstract of an article – an abstract is a concise summary.
So, now we’re ready to create an Advanced Search using what we’ve discovered thus far.

We’ll search for nutrition in the subject, and for (study or objective or methods or results or conclusion) in the abstract. This is called field searching.
We enter the first main concept term to search the subject field, we enter the second main concept terms using or between them to search the abstract field, and we use the and operator to search for records containing both main concepts.
ASP allows us to limit results to scholarly articles.
This search yields over 31K scholarly results.

The final search technique is, interact with the search results and modify the search statement to improve results.
[Since we don’t expect to find the best results with only one search,] Always be ready to modify the search in order to improve the quality of the results (quality refers to criteria such as the currency, authority, accuracy, audience and point of view).
Look for relevant results to discover more main concept synonyms or subject terms.
ASP also lists subject terms in the left margin.
[At any time we can refine our search by clicking on Show more.] [Add one or more subject terms to narrow the search.]

We will add college students as another subject term, since we’ve learned previously that this phrase is in fact included in the ASP list of subjects.
This search yields about 130 scholarly results.

Hover the cursor over the Magnifying glass icon to view the record and its abstract if available.
Click on the article title to view the full record.
Click the Cite this article icon to see examples of how to cite the article – users still need to proofread the suggested formatting.
[Each record contains a persistent link which is included when the record is emailed and which takes the user back to the full citation.]

Create a list of relevant records. Use Add to folder, go to Folder view, and then email the folder contents to yourself. First select those records you will email.