Creating a Search Strategy

1. Define your topic in a phrase or sentence.

*Example:* My paper explores the career outlook of teaching.

2. Circle the keywords, or the main words, in your sentence.

3. Generate synonyms for the keywords in your topic. Get these from books, articles, or other sources of information.

*teaching careers, careers in education, future of teaching*

4. Find additional keywords or synonyms such as persons, places or related things.

*elementary education (or a specific level), professional responsibilities, wages, salary, work conditions, training for teachers*

5. List the assignment requirements (due date, types of sources, etc.).

*3 newspaper articles, 2 academic/scholarly articles; Sources must be no more than 5 years old; Due December 1.*

6. Try some searches! Go to the FAU Libraries Home Page (www.fau.edu/library) to get to SearchWiSE, the Library Catalog and Indexes/Databases.