**Database Speed Dating**

**PART A**

**My database is: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **What subject area(s) does it cover?** Most databases specialize in one subject area. Use a research guide, or limit the A-Z list of databases by subject. |  |
| **What date range does it cover?** Check to see what the oldest available content is, and the most recent. Some databases may go back decades, some may be lagging two or three years behind the most recent issue. |  |
| **What type of material does it cover?** Does this database contain scholarly journal articles, magazine and newspaper articles, book chapters, conference papers, data, images, or personal papers? |  |
| **Geographic bias?** Does the database cover international content, or is it limited? |  |

**Part B:**

**Database #1:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Pros** | **Cons** |
|  |  |

**Database #2:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Pros** | **Cons** |
|  |  |

**Database #3:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Pros** | **Cons** |
|  |  |

**Part C:**

Return to your workstation to complete this section.

**I’m looking for…. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Your research topic**

From the library’s list of databases, open each of the databases you interviewed and search for sources on your research topic. Make sure to use the exact same search in each database so you can compare.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Database name** | **#1:** | **#2:** | **#3:** |
| **No. results** |  |  |  |
| **Rate using  1 low - 5 high** |  |  |  |
| * **Overall rating** |  |  |  |
| * **Easy to search** |  |  |  |
| * **Easy to limit results** |  |  |  |
| * **Useful limiters** |  |  |  |
| * **Relevant results** |  |  |  |

**Which database do you prefer overall? Why?**