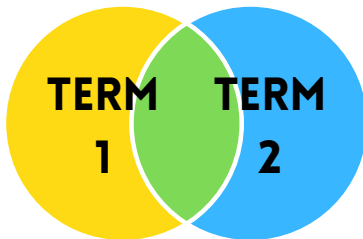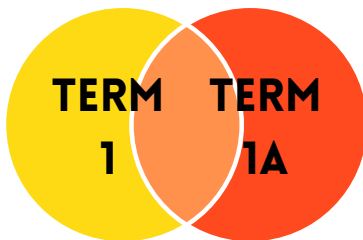# SEARCH STRATEGY TIPS

CREATING A SEARCH STRATEGY

- Identify key concepts/keywords in your topic or thesis statement.
- Identify alternate terms to your key concepts/keywords.

AND retrieves results that contain all search terms (i.e., all the results include both Term 1 AND Term 2).

- Used to **NARROW** a search
- Used to be **MORE SPECIFIC** when searching

TERM 1 **TERM 2**

TERM 1 **AND** TERM 2

TERM 1 **TERM 1A**

TERM 1 **OR** TERM 1A

OR retrieves results that contain any of the search terms (i.e., results can include either Term 1 OR Term 1A).

- Used to **EXPAND** a search
- Useful for searching concepts with **SIMILAR MEANINGS**

TRUNCATION is using an Asterisk (*) at the end of the root of a word to find all possible endings

- Useful to **EXPAND** a search
- **DRIV* =** Driving, Drive, Driven, Drives, Drivers

PHRASE SEARCHING is using Quotation Marks (" ") to search all words belonging to one concept.

- Useful to improve the precision of a search (e.g., **"POSITIVE INFLUENCE", "COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY"**)

Keyano COLLEGE | **LIBRARY** www.keyano.ca/library