## Basic Search Tips and Advanced Boolean Explained (Grant Forward)

| Basic Searching                | Examples  |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Quotation Marks                | Requires words to be searched as a phrase in the exact  |
| u u                            | order you type them   |
|                                | "working mothers"   |
|                                | "affirmative action"  |
| Common Words Usually           | Search: which versus that.  |
| Ignored                        | Only versus is searched on. Which and that are ignored.   |
| + or " "                       | <ul> <li>To require common words to be searched:</li> </ul>   |
| To search                      | +which versus +that   |
|                                | "which versus that"   |
| Excluding                      | <ul> <li>Use – to exclude certain words or phrases</li> </ul>   |
| -word-"phrase in quotes"       | "acute pancreatitis" diet -cat -dog - "pancreatic cancer"   |
| <b>OR</b> allows more than one | OR requires at least one of the terms joined by it to appear  |
| term                           | somewhere in the document, in any order.  |
|                                | "African Americans" OR blacks   |
| Dogs Cats                      | ear OR nose OR throat   |
|                                | The more words you enter connected by <b>OR</b> the more  |
| Dogs or cats                   | documents you get. Broadens the search.   |
| Allows pages with at           | <ul> <li>USES: The OR operator is generally used to join similar,</li> </ul>  |
| least one of the terms         | equivalent, or synonymous concepts.   |
|                                | "global warming" or "greenhouse effect"   |
| AND (default)                  | AND is the default and only needs to be typed if you are  |
|                                | using other Boolean operators with ().  |
| Dogs Cats                      | Infopeople training   |
| Dogs Cats                      | Is logically the same as infopeople and training  |
|                                | The more words you enter connected by <b>AND</b> the fewer  |
| Dogs and cats is the small     | opportunities you will get. All your words will be searched   |
| overlap where both             | on.   |
| terms occur                    | USES: The <b>AND</b> operator is generally used to join different linds of concepts different concepts of the guestions.              |
|                                | kinds of concepts, different aspects of the questions.  "global warming" AND "sea level rise" AND California                          |
| AND NOT                        | Excludes documents containing whatever follows it.  |
| ANDINOI                        | <ul> <li>Excludes documents containing whatever follows it.</li> <li>The AND NOT operator is generally used after you have</li> </ul> |
|                                | performed a search, looked at results, and determined that  |
| dogs cats                      | you do not want to see results containing some word or  |
|                                | phrase.   |
| Dogs <b>AND NOT</b> cats       | <ul> <li>USES: The AND NOT should be used with caution, as it may</li> </ul>  |
| Excludes pages that            | eliminate some results that may be helpful.   |
| mention cats, even if          | "global warming" AND "sea level rise" AND NOT California  |
| they also mention dogs         | The first two items must be somewhere and any result  |
|                                | containing California will be thrown out.   |
|                                | containing camornia will be thrown out.   |