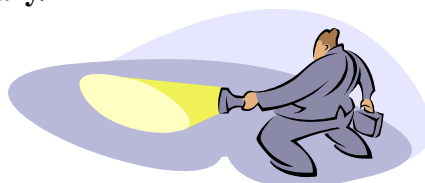




What is Boolean Searching?

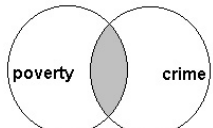
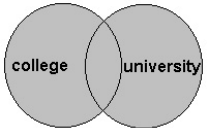
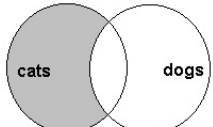
Bismarck State College Library Pathfinder

<http://www.bismarckstate.edu/library/>



Boolean Searching (AND, OR, NOT)

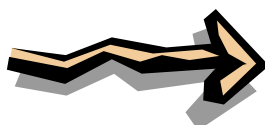
Boolean searching allows you to combine search terms using the three Boolean operators **AND**, **OR**, **NOT**. To execute a Boolean search, enter the required terms separated by the Boolean operators you wish to use.

<p>AND</p> <p>The AND operator retrieves all records that contain both of the terms entered. This normally retrieves fewer records than searching one of the terms on its own.</p>	<p>Example:</p> <p>Poverty AND Crime</p> 
<p>OR</p> <p>The OR operator retrieves all records which contain either or both of the terms entered. This retrieves more records than searching one of the terms on its own.</p>	<p>Example:</p> <p>College OR University</p> 
<p>NOT</p> <p>The NOT operator retrieves all records that contain the first term entered but not the second.</p>	<p>Example:</p> <p>Cats NOT Dogs</p> 



You can use Boolean to search:

- ODIN's online catalog
- ODIN's Newspaper & Magazine Indexes
- The Internet



Check to see if the resource you are searching allows Boolean searching. Boolean searching can significantly improve your searches and information retrieval.

Resource: University of Albany Libraries – Boolean Searching on the Internet. <http://library.albany.edu/internet/boolean.html>

