**Q. Imagine you could design a multidisciplinary research database that would best meet the needs of your institution. Please describe the content types you would include and the disciplines and/or curricula it would support.**

* A multidisciplinary research database would support nursing and allied health programs and would include journal article databases and streaming videos
* A wide range of disciplines. Good advanced search function choices. Linked fully to our discovery service. Includes ALL the open access portals.
* Able to opt what database(s) can be used at any time, able to select subject-specific and options among them. Able to search everything and sort which have most relevant content. Able to search by title and/or by subject.
* Academic journals and monographs, scholarly blogs, high quality news sources, a curated video service—we'd need most all disciplines to be covered, excluding some professional areas like medicine.
* Academic journals, books, magazines, newspapers. General Liberal Arts along with basic support for professional schools—business, health sciences, criminal justice, etc.
* Academic journals in all disciplines—science, humanities, social science, business.
* Academic journals in social work; psychiatry/psychology; education.
* Academic subjects including the arts, health care, business, literature, law, sciences, journals, newspapers, magazines, ebooks specializing in occupations for two-year certificate programs for engineering, paramedics, nursing, technicians, paralegal and other degrees that put students into the workplace prepared from using these resources.
* Accessible to users with disabilities—from the search engine to the materials in it.
* Add Credo Information Literacy and MLA Literature, as well as incorporating DLPA or Open Source resource to supplement our current databases.
* All content types and primarily Humanities, Sciences, Nursing and Health Careers, Technology and Vocational Careers.
* All content types including TDM, videos, articles, case studies, experiments, images, books and book chapters. I think what is more important are the findability of resources and that is where technology is lagging.
* All discipline and curriculum information
* All disciplines taught here and all formats.
* All ejournal databases, bibliographic databases and ebooks can be accessed in one platform with institutional scholarly products—e.g. thesis, articles, conference proceedings are available on demand.
* All humanities and Social Sciences, Allied Health and Biological Sciences, Business and Technology sources.
* All major disciplines—Science, Art, Psychology, Education, Sports, Medical, etc.
* All supporting undergraduate/graduate medical education: Peer-reviewed journals, integrated practice guidelines, point-of-care evidence-based medicine, pharmacology, multi-language patient education files, natural/holistic/alternative/complementary medicine.
* Articles, ebooks, video. Liberal arts, nursing, education, business, Christian studies.
* As a major and multidisciplinary institution we would include all areas. It is difficult to name a few.
* As a private liberal arts school with a number of graduate and undergraduate professional programs, we would need it to support all disciplines and all content types.
* As many content types as possible, supporting the career clusters of the Guided Pathways model.
* Biomedical: scholarly, news, consumer health, general science writing.
* Blogs, images, preprints, data available, and it would support all areas of the sciences
* Books, media, journal articles, web sources, blogs, newspapers, company profiles, encyclopedias, music, open access and all arts and sciences programs offered at my institution—social sciences, arts, natural sciences, etc.
* Books, ebooks, journal articles, newspapers, standards, musical scores, government reports, theses, statistics.
* Business, nursing, education, history, ethnic studies, LGBT topics, sports science, music, arts—needs to include materials for undergrads.
* Case studies and business reporting would be a must, but other than that, article PDFs would suffice.
* College Credit material, Adult Education Material, and ESOL material.
* Conference proceedings, grey literature, dissertations and theses, peer-reviewed journal articles, monographs, book chapters, Open Access journals, datasets, possibly videos like those seen in JoVE.
* CONTENT TYPES: Journals/eJournals/articles eBooks Reference Databases Dictionaries Financial Filings Market & Country Profiles Dissertations & Theses Working Papers Statistics Other Data Conference Papers (and other grey literature) Newspapers Discovery/Exploratory Service Google Scholar links Multimedia Institutional Repositories (worldwide) Social Media links (but with privacy intact)? Citation Styles and Tools LibGuides links (for subscribers) or other type OA guides SUBJECTS ALL Priority subjects: Business Education Engineering Humanities and Social Sciences Medicine Mining and Geosciences Public Policy Science Technology
* Content types: multimedia periodicals open access resources ebooks vetted, quality web sources. Disciplines: Nursing Business Music Social Sciences Humanities.
* Content types: Peer-reviewed articles, white papers, photographs, videos, brochures. Disciplines: Health (including Nursing), Computer programming, Business (including Accounting), Writing, Communications.
* Content types: journal articles, protocols, ebooks, reference works, videos, conference proceedings, social media. Disciplines it would support: engineering, architecture, maths, physics, biology, fine arts, economy and business.
* Content types: journals (peer-reviewed and non-peer-reviewed), eBooks, trade publications, magazines, newspapers, newswires, videos. Disciplines/curricula to support: business, psychology, sociology, religious studies (including Biblical studies and theology), education, biology, medicine, philosophy, history, English literature, classical studies, political science, criminal justice, communication and media studies.
* Content types: journals, magazines, trade journals, newspapers, books, media, blogs, podcasts, TED talks, etc. Disciplines: many ala EBSCO's Academic Search platforms.
* Content types: mainstream magazine articles, academic journal articles, and long newspaper articles from "main stream" papers, not local papers. Students seem to use short and local articles to cherry pick from. Longer pieces, from mainstream sources, usually are more comprehensive. Some students also seem to have an automatic distrust of mainstream sources, despite not being very familiar with them. I think students should be directed to use mainstream sources, so they become familiar with their strengths and weaknesses. Faculty I've worked (in lower level courses) seem to allow the kinds of sources I've mentioned. Disciplines: current/recent topics; cultural pieces; politics; American and international.
* Content types: Reference Entries, with links to actual encyclopedia-style articles. But call it something like Overview Entries or “Intro Articles.” Peer Reviewed Articles. Statistical Information, like what is found in Statista or American Fact Finder. News and popular articles (not "newspapers"). Include online news sources and traditional. Economist and Vox. Company Profiles. Industry Reports. Market Analysis. Case Studies. Case Law/Legal cases. Primary Sources. Books. Streaming Video. Music. Clinical Overviews. I would also provide curriculum-level breakdowns: Education, Business, Nursing/Allied Health, Psychology, Anthropology/Sociology/Criminal Justice, Arts and Literature, History, Natural Sciences, Computer Sciences, Engineering, Politics, Current Issues. However, such a database is impossible without human-eyeball classification and quality metadata. Central Indexes are shoddy, and machine-generated records cannot provide granular and even relevant descriptors.
* Current news (curated and reliable) Magazine and Journal articles full-text research Literature Sciences Maths History Health multi disciplinary.
* Curricula supported: undergraduate and graduate medical education public health biomedical sciences graduate biology graduate chemistry sociology psychology allied health physical therapy
* Database for Art, Art History, Architecture, Urban Design & Planning. Books, journal articles, news articles, good blogs and websites, conferences.
* Discipline-specific is better. “Multidisciplinary research database” will likely be way too broad and swamp users.
* A discovery tool that actually works well. Good linking to full text. The ability to take out content: news wires, unidentifiable stuff, hard to cite or know where it is coming from. The ability to de-dupe or prioritize where the full-text is coming from. Ebooks are an absolute mess!
* Easily distinguished books and ebooks, articles, conference papers, videos, gov publication. Every academic discipline.
* eBooks, Journals, Conference papers, Dissertations, data sets, transcripts - supporting counseling.
* EBSCO and ProQuest would play nicely and share metadata. Maybe a neutral third-party vendor to host this magical unicorn? Would have primary sources, multimedia (streaming media, audio, etc.) as well as traditional articles and ebooks (PDF/ePub).
* Electronic formats: journals, ebooks, video, datasets, audio, images, maps, research management and visualization tools. Disciplines: Arts, Humanities, Social/Physical/Natural/Health Sciences
* E-ShodhSindhu
* Except for chemistry, where word searching applies only sometimes, a consistent search format and commands for all databases. EBSCOhost approaches this ideal.
* Existing database subscriptions with no gaps in indexing, local collections, local and regional digital collections, institutional repository, library exhibits.
* Good relevance searching with good limiters. Include more audio-visual resources.
* First, it would allow for search criteria based on the assignment. Second there would be dual source type delineation when appropriate. For example a book review in a peer-reviewed journal could be excluded EASILY.
* Focus efforts especially to include business database content (reports, datasets, etc).
* This already exists in many formats: JSTOR, discovery layers, multi-subject aggregators. Do not throw your money or time at this. If you try and put together something that incorporates all known and future types of items, you're going to screw it up and end up replicating Google—badly.
* Full-text research articles Indexes and Abstracts Audiovisuals Science, Computing and Engineering.
* General education support (sociology, political science, health, current events, psychology, controversial issues); everything from news to reference to scholarly/peer-reviewed. We're a community college with a higher than average transfer rate.
* Google Scholar, Wiki, Book reviews; biography; author blog; newspaper articles to support physics, chemistry, biology, nursing, education, communications, literature and writing, history, ROTC, general reading.
* Grey literature; datasets.
* Heavy STEM emphasis; full text of books, conference proceedings, journals, trade magazines, etc.
* Here in Australia, our VCE students focus greatly on issues and perspectives, so it would be good to have a means for gaining information on the various issues, in conjunction with the perspectives and POV side of things.
* Highly faceted for content type and subject. If multidisciplinary, then the focus should be geographical: the Rio Grande Valley. Best content types would be liberally licensed monographs, reference articles, maybe specialized journals fully indexed. Primary source materials and datasets would also be useful, especially if the database has built in visualization tools.
* History--containing primary sources, journal articles, well-regarded history websites, conference papers, videos by history professors.
* I think we just need ebooks, video (close captioned), and journal articles, which we need to support the majors at our college. We're just a community college.
* Humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, current events, primarily to support core curriculum. Content type would include scholarly journals, general interest periodicals, newspapers, encyclopedic sources, data sources.
* I am less concerned about content, than I am with usability of a tool like this. We have EBSCO Discover and I don't feel that it is user friendly.
* Multi-disciplinary content that could be customized to fit the programs we have or aspire to (we are currently undergoing a reorganization to move in a more multi-disciplinary direction, but I'm not sure what the programs will look like).
* I can already find what I need in our current products.
* I can picture a database (a discovery engine) that retrieves results from many powerful indices and which allows users to combine or exclude various disciplines based on their research needs. Text mining tools in such a database would be very useful as well (I'm thinking of tools that allow for systematic reviews, etc.).
* I wish the multidisciplinary dbase would offer "the best of" the discipline specific ones—really good ways to narrow down topics when getting back so many results.
* Content would be highly filterable. Students are often restricted by their faculty to very specific formats (peer-reviewed journal articles and scholarly books) while faculty themselves want everything.
* I don't think there's any use in trying to re-create the Internet, but one database that has books, multimedia, articles, etc. from all different disciplines and that somehow covered the content of all of our databases would be great. Sort of like what our discovery system claims to be trying to do, but absolutely doesn't.
* I don't think this would work because each discipline is different. We don't need to have everything in one place nor would we want everything to be standardized. My institution is a liberal arts college where quirkiness and nonconformity are considered good things. (In fact I'm wondering if this survey is actually from a vendor, wanting to prime librarians to get ready to buy some giant product. Presumably this vendor is either EBSCO or ProQuest).
* I honestly feel like our subscription to Academic Search Premier is a great place for beginning researchers and meets this need.
* I mostly despise multidisciplinary databases, as they are filled with crap content and bad metadata. as in academic premier.
* I think Google Scholar comes close. Fortunately, most discipline-specific databases also scope in inter-/multidisciplinary research.
* I think one of the challenges students have in identifying and evaluating resources is actually in finding different resource types in the same database when they are not clearly differentiated—like between reviews and scholarly articles. One area we still have trouble supplying is an affordable, multidisciplinary film resource that meets our faculty's needs.
* A single research database will never be sufficient for all user needs.
* I would integrate examples of public discourse: C-SPAN, web journalism, broadcast transcripts and media
* I would like to see a variety of content types—multimedia as well as print. The disciplines would be humanities, business, religion, health sciences, education, criminal justice, psychology, sociology, counseling.
* I would look to the National Library of Medicine. I would want conference proceedings (hopefully with audio), books, journals, data set, etc.
* I would love to see a research database which would combine Human Dev/Psych with Technology & Math, Health Sciences, Social Science, and Business Enterprise/Innovation. I think this type of design could help facilitate bridges across these broad disciplines and facilitate creative solutions by way of these connections.
* I would not design a database with multiple content types.
* I would offer something similar to Academic Search Complete, but it would offer additional formats, such as ebooks and more newspapers, along with the refinement tools to choose my content carefully.
* It is not possible to effectively have controlled vocabulary searches across disciplines. It is always better to use discipline-specific databases with discipline specific search terms. Bigger isn't better, less is more, and scrolling through lots of non-relevant results is for noobs on Google Scholar. If this survey was some kind of veiled ad for the new ProQuest monster, I am disappointed.
* I'd like to see academic journals, conference proceedings, conference recordings, ebooks, dissertations, white papers, and unpublished research (such as clinicaltrials.gov). We focus on acupuncture and Chinese medicine, so the major discipline that would need to be present is medicine (and in particular, integrative medicine and acupuncture research). I think general social sciences would also be included, especially resources that focus on social justice.
* Ideally, it would include all databases available. Why limit the possibilities of discovery? Aren't humanities just as critical to research as medicine?
* If it truly was multidisciplinary I would wish it to still have a certain amount of disciplinary control, the ability to focus in on certain disciplines and eliminate others, to focus on certain resource types and eliminate others. It would also need consistent metadata standards and indexing over all of the content. Right now, discovery layers act like a multidisciplinary research database but they are so messy that they can easily overwhelm and are so inconsistent in their metadata (despite best efforts) that they are not as satisfying a search as a targeted subject specific index.
* If it was multidisciplinary it would need to support all disciplines. Important content types would vary by discipline, I would imagine you would need to cover a wide-variety, but have the ability to limit to just some types (peer-reviewed is still the most sought after at the moment).
* In addition to the content types typically included now (journals, magazines, newspapers, books), I would also include the best reporting from online publications like HuffPost, BuzzFeed, the Intercept, scholarly blogs, etc. It would ideally support all our disciplines.
* Interdisciplinary curricula—helping students see connections between ways of thinking. Include audio and video content not just for different coverage but also to facilitate universal access.
* It should be flexible enough to support the curricular needs of the campus, include all content/formats relevant to the specific disciplines, and be sortable by format and discipline.
* It would be messy. Would have to traditional article & ebook databases. Streaming media of all types, business sources including industry, company and financial information. Statistical data, directory information. Probably other types of visual material like digital repositories.
* It would have far too much content, we are better to direct users to databases specific to their area.
* It would include all the projects and research papers created by students and lecturers within the institution, academic journals, poster presentation, videos, photos, maps, among others.
* It would include articles from various places, but MOST important it must be obvious where these sources come from if the whole point is to teach students the differences.
* It would include books, ebooks, periodicals and streaming media, etc. but each type of information would be clearly identified. It would also be possible to easily filter content to a specific format so that students aren't overwhelmed with 999,000 results from their initial search. We have a discovery platform, but using it can be daunting.
* It would include scholarly materials, as well as popular materials (magazines) and links to credible websites. In some ways, Opposing Viewpoints in Context already does this.
* It's called Google Scholar. We have to teach students how to select appropriate/relevant sources and evaluate them, regardless of where they find them. Rather than trying to build one tool that saves them from having to learn those skills.
* It's hard to imagine a single multidisciplinary research database that would meet our patrons' needs as we have program strengths in very diverse areas, including nursing, performance arts (music/dance/theatre), business, and religion, as well as having traditional liberal arts disciplines.
* It's impossible to describe such a database to serve a university of 17,000 students and many different programs.
* Many academics I work with create multimedia learning objects as part of their normal teaching and learning workload. It would be extremely useful if these objects could be stored in an institutional repository and be discoverable using library standard search tools. I work in the field of education with academics addressing the education continuum from birth to healthy aging.
* Multidisciplinary research databases are most helpful for early undergraduates, especially because they are not as familiar with the lines between different disciplines. Therefore, this database would have content from a variety of disciplines, a range of source types (e.g. magazines, trade journals, scholarly blogs, academic and peer-reviewed journals). The database would also have tools to help students determine whether the source is credible enough for their information needs.
* OneSearch across several multidisciplinary research databases for community college.
* Online content (type doesn't matter -- books, journals, datasets, newspapers, etc) with no DRM restrictions, intuitive interface, etc. We would highlight the obvious disciplines we focus on, plus known curricula themes and emerging themes and resources (such as intelligence sources).
* Open access resources, audio, video, podcasts, eBooks, etc.
* Our college only offers a liberal arts degree in one discipline - philosophy. So I'd design a database that included liberal arts resources, with heavy emphasis on philosophy & theology full-text sources, and lose all the nursing, chemistry, physics resources. Content would include dissertations and electronic access to current journals (in philosophy & theology, at least).
* Our small community college graduates students ready to join the Alaska workforce, therefore my database would focus heavily on Alaska publications, government documents, video, websites and blogs that are produced in and contain content about the higher latitudes. It would focus on data regarding the sociology, psychology, geography, economics, business, anthropology, health, engineering and technology, education and history of the northern latitudes.
* Pairings of secondary articles with the primary sources off which they are based, more literature sets or readers of this variety which address a common subject/topic using a wide variety of formats and disciplinary perspectives.
* Peer-reviewed academic papers, videos, interviews, case studies, company, industry and country information, law cases, journal articles. Law, Business, IT, Arts.
* Peer-reviewed/ Scholarly, Evidence based (for medical fields) removal of "popular" titles.
* Primary and secondary legal materials, supplemented by materials in disciplines related to law such as criminal justice, economics, political science, and psychology.
* Primary sources that could accessed in same place with secondary sources, blog posts, videos, articles, white papers, news feeds, case studies, etc. to support social sciences.
* Question is too open ended. Virtually every possible subject area and format would have to be listed.
* The Discover Search from EBSCO seems to cover this pretty well. Truth be told, faculty really don't want these broad multidisciplinary search tools. They still like the subject specific, because they really want students exploring the literature of the specific field.
* Scholarly: journals (with peer-review or lack identified), academic monographs. Blogs, discussion lists, etc. should remain separate. They're important for research and scholarly communication, but are clutter, if integrated into scholarly sources. Info overload!
* Since we are a 2-year community college which is also serving an early college high school, I needs are very diverse. We need an integrated database for ebooks, journals, and videos.
* So for undergrads Academic Search is the key database. Why would you want to add media/blogs/working papers, etc., when students are just learning to distinguish what a scholarly journal is. More "traditional" content would be a better add.
* Sociological information along with literature criticism for English students, with some psychology sprinkled in. Students sometimes struggle with recognizing the interconnections of these subjects, having one database that explored them all might help.
* Support all areas--what might be considered a general database. Content types: Books, Journal and magazine article, e-books, blogs, podcasts.
* The Gale databases seem to do this well. But my students like Academic Search Complete the best.
* There are few African American Studies interdisciplinary databases (GALE Diversity Collection, Ethnic Newswatch, etc.) that do not prioritize primary sources only, usually from the Civil Rights Movement or other documented eras.
* This is a rather broad conceptualization. If it were truly multidisciplinary, I wouldn't omit any disciplines; I would include all disciplines. It is difficult to say what curricula one would include. Ideally it would focus less on curriculum and more on content. If one wants to be more specific, I'd argue for including undergraduate and graduate level curricula. Content types would include primarily scholarly publications (primary, secondary, etc.) and trade publications that toe the line as well as reliable "popular" publications such as notable newspapers.
* This is difficult because most disciplines have some multidisciplinary aspects. One stop shopping is not a good model for academics or life.
* This question is ridiculous. The only way I could actually answer this within the 4 minutes you said this survey would take is to say, "all of them". Do some actual user research--by talking to people and observing how they do their work--to find out what people would need. Because the answer is going to vary depending on what time of user/institution you're talking to.
* We already have one and it works okay. However, you seem to be looking for a single system to satisfy all needs. That will likely never exist as long as numeric/property/chemistry/business databases exist. Information sources simply vary too much in content and access points. I suppose it could exist in the future, but I don't know of ANYONE that is currently working on something that could truly satisfy our more intense or specialized information needs.
* We already have this (that suits our students' needs) through EBSCO and ProQuest.
* We already use a discovery product (WorldCat Discovery) that would work better if the database products would not prevent their metadata from being centrally indexed. This is mostly an EBSCO problem. as ProQuest works well.
* We're a regional campus of a major public university, so we're lucky to share most of what they offer. I'd love a single-search option for every single database - EBSCO Discovery's good, but not great because it only appears to index everything. You still need to head over to ProQuest for those, and I still recommend that students seek out the databases that are best for their fields. A perfect tool would limit the number of searches a student needs to do, index only peer-reviewed journals (and no predatory ones!) unless specifically requested and include journals covering all of our subjects.
* While many databases have icons that indicate a resource type, it would be amazing if we could have resources that plainly state what general subject area(s) that article/resource is from (separate from subject headings), plainly state which databases the item(s) come from (this is often buried in header information in federated searches), and perhaps make recommendations as a footnote to the item's record. I would love to see a pool of ALL of the kinds of material - videos, primary sources, newspaper articles, all of the journal types (trade, scholarly, popular), books/ebooks, and encyclopedias, with easy radio buttons to be able to switch between types. It would also be amazing for there to be sidebar glossaries/reminders (What is peer reviewed? with an icon to hover on for a pop-out explanation), and easy embed codes for database widgets for websites, especially LibGuides.
* Wide-ranging content that connects to other data sources through a link resolver that works far more reliably than EBSCO's Full Text Finder would be grand.
* Would include all disciplines we currently teach and anticipate those we might add or drop. Should cover all media (print, streaming audio and video). Vendors should standardize how their products work with it.
* Would need to work with our shared ILS-- the Orbis Cascade Alliance uses Alma/Primo. My small university is primarily a liberal arts college, though we also offer business and accounting, engineering, computer science and nursing... The Alliance is a mix of 38 small, medium and large academic libraries including University of Washington, so this multidisciplinary research database would need to be a flexible, robust platform. Would like students to be able to narrow down the thousands of journals by subject area when feasible, rather than having to browse through the titles or happen to know the journal titles. Would like to not worry about "stanzas" and such changing and needing to be updated....
* You have a question earlier asking if I agreed or disagreed that this would be helpful, yet you are asking me to describe what I would include in an imaginary database of this type. What if I disagreed? This question assumes I think this is a good idea. I'm not sure if it is or not. I like the idea that information from many places could be connected without necessarily having to be stored centrally in the same database. This seems important especially for data sets and multimedia research products.