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| Title | **Databases** |
| **Due Date** | **Due Monday** |
| Where to Post | Click on "New Post" button above and type your response in the space provided below.  Click Save. |
| Subject | Your Name / Databases |
| Points | 10 |
| Criteria | * On time and posted in the Discussion Board with correct subject line. Correct grammar, spelling, and usage * Demonstrates that you: * Completed all parts of the assignment * Understand the structure of a database * Understand how database structure affects searching |
| Objective | Examine two different types of research databases to understand what they are and how they work. |

#### **Step One: Preparation**

Complete the tutorial from University of Washington Libraries on [database searching](http://www.lib.washington.edu/uwill/research101/Search00.htm). Examine two databases available through the Seattle Central Community College (SCCC) library, e.g. *ProQuest* and *Academic Search Complete*. You can read a description for each database on the [SCCC website](http://www.seattlecentral.edu/library). On the homepage, click on "Research Databases." On this page you will see "All Subjects - Interdisciplinary." Below this is the list of all the databases with a brief description of each one. Be sure to read the descriptions of the databases that you chose to review.

**Step Two: Assignment**

As you review the databases, keep in mind that in this assignment, the information you are looking for is about the **databases**, not an article you might find when searching the database.

1. Choose two databases that seem promising for your topic. How are they the same and how are they different? In what ways will they be useful to your research? You will have to go in and explore the way they are set up for searching and the various search features they provide.
2. Analyze the two databases you chose to determine the following:

a. purpose (What is this database meant to do? What kind of information do you find in here?)

b. scope (What is the range of topics covered?)

c. coverage (How many titles are covered? Over what years?)

d. access points (e.g. subject heading, author, keyword, date, etc., i.e., what can you search by?)

#### **Step Three: Essay**

Write an essay of 200 words comparing the two databases you selected. Use the subjects listed above such as purpose, scope, coverage, access points and special features as your means of comparison. What are the major similarities and major differences between the two databases?

#### **Step Four: Response**

Write a 100 word response to the essays of two other students. **Respond to comments on your essay.**

#### **Step Five: Post your essay below.**