Lander College For Women Library
227 West 60th Street

Power Point Presentation on Researching Searching Bar Ilan database, 2007

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Bruchot ha-bayot! Bienvenu! Willkommen! Salutare! Welcome
Searching Bar Ilan

- **Search Words**
  - A single word (*eg. ישראל*) or group of words (*eg. בני ישראל*) can be entered into the search field.
  - (NB. Keyboard language setting should be switched to Hebrew before typing).

- **Basic Search**
  - To perform a basic search, type a single word or group of words in the ‘Search words’ text box. By typing a group of words, the resulting documents will be all documents that contain the exact expression.

- **Examples**
  - Searching for *בני ישראל* will retrieve only documents that include the whole expression.
Searching Bar Ilan w/Boolean

- **Free search** – Search for documents using Boolean logic operators:
  - **And** (וגם) – Search for documents containing both words (this being the default operator if none is specified).
  - Example: "ארון קודש ו וגם בית כנסת" – search for documents that contain both terms – "ארון קודש" and "בית כנסת".
  - **Or** (או) – Search for documents containing either word.
  - Example: "ארון קודש או בית כנסת" – search for documents that contain either of the terms – "ארון קודש" or "בית כנסת", or both.
  - **Not** (ולא) – Search for documents not containing the word.
  - Example: "ארון קודש ולא בית כנסת" – search for documents that contain the terms – "ארון קודש" but not the term "בית כנסת".
Proximity operator in Bar Ilan

- **(Word):[n]** – proximity operator, indicating the maximum distance between the words.

- **Example 1:** (פרוץ ארון צורות):15 - search for documents that contain all the words in the expression, all within a distance of up to 15 words (maximum distance can be 99 words).

- **Example 2:** (ארון קודש) וגמ (בית קנסת):10 – search for documents that contain either of the terms – "ארון קדוש" or "בית קנסת" or both.

- **Note:** Since the words "וגם" "וא" "ולא", are Boolean operators as mentioned above, they cannot be searched exclusively as expressions.
Wildcards in Bar Ilan

- **Wildcards**

Wildcards allow you to search for word patterns. Wildcards can be typed within a word, at the beginning of a word and at the end of a word, and in different combinations.

- · * (asterisk) – Represents no characters, a single character or a string of characters in the specified position.

  Example1: בית* will retrieve בֵית, בְּיָה, שֶבֶיט, בָּהַית etc.

  Example2: נָדָב* – will retrieve the documents containing נָדָב as well as נָדָב, נָדָבֶם, נָדָבָה etc.

  Example3: אַפּוֹרֶפֶוֵס* פָּטוֹרֶפֶוֵס אַפּוֹרֶפֶוֵס/ אַפּוֹרֶפֶוֵס will retrieve פָּטוֹרֶפֶוֵס אַפּוֹרֶפֶוֵס אַפּוֹרֶפֶוֵס/ אַפּוֹרֶפֶוֵס.

- · ? (question mark) – Represents any single character in the specified position.

  Example: אַרְוָי? – will retrieve the documents containing both אַרְוָי/ אַרְוָי and אַרְוָי.

- · ! (exclamation mark) – Represents no characters or any single character in the specified position.

  Example: אָהָר! – will retrieve the documents containing אָהָר as well as אָהָר.
Bar Ilan Hebrew Keyboard
Example of 1st 3 hits of 195 hits on pusek “Honor your father and mother”