# Using NELSON: Advanced Searching [Video Transcript]

Let’s look at some advanced features of NELSON. If you are just getting started with using NELSON, you might find it useful to take a look at the ‘Introducing NELSON’ video on the Skills Hub.

Before you begin a search remember to sign in with a university login at the top right of the NELSON home page.

You will see in our example that we have typed quotation marks around the phrase “study skills”. This means that NELSON will search for the exact phrase rather than the individual words.

If this is the first time you are using NELSON, you will need to personalise your search. This includes selecting your degree and the topic areas that relate to your studies. Don’t worry, you can change this at a later date by clicking edit disciplines.

The filters on the right-hand side can help you refine your search if needed. For example, the ‘Topic’ filter can be used to include or exclude particular topics. There is also the option to limit by publication date.

You can specify publication type, such as ‘Peer-reviewed Journals’, which will focus your results to good quality articles that will have been reviewed by experts in the field.

You can click on the title of an item to see more information about it. If you are searching journals, click on the ‘Full text available’ link to view online.

NELSON has lots of other useful features you may wish to explore. For example, you can click on the pin to save an item to your favourites or save a query to re-run searches quickly in the future or to be notified when new relevant resources are added.

This can be useful if you are working on a research project or dissertation, and need to regularly check for new articles using the same search words or phrases.

To access saved searches and favourites, click on the pin icon at the top right of the NELSON page.

Once you have saved references to your favourites, you can e-mail them or export them to a reference management tool, such as RefWorks.

Your recent search history can be found by following the link in the top right-hand corner of NELSON.

If you have some questions about the content, or would like some further support, please contact an Academic Librarian.