Finding Similar Phrases in 20 Minutes Handout

There are 4 strategies that I frequently use for finding similar phrases:
- Subject Terms box on the Social Work Research Guide
- Database Thesaurus or Index
- Title, abstract, and subject fields when reviewing database results
- Merriam-Webster's online thesaurus

1. **Subject Terms box on the Social Work Research Guide**
   https://libguides.wustl.edu/social-work/subjecttermspage
   For example, view the box of terms for bullying.

2. **Database Thesaurus or Index**
The last page of the handout has a list of Brown School's most frequently used databases that have a thesaurus or index.

   My favorite database thesaurus is Medline via PubMed.
   Click on the link for MeSH Database.

   For example, type in: climate change
   "Entry Terms" has Climate changes.
   The "tree structure" has Global Warming.

   Searching for Global warming
   "Entry Terms" yields no new information.
   "Previous Indexing" lists Greenhouse Effect.
   "See Also" has Greenhouse gases and Carbon footprint.

   Searching for Greenhouse effect yields no new information.
   Searching for Carbon footprint yields no new information.

   Searching for Greenhouse gases
   "See Also" has Ozone depletion.

   Searching for Ozone depletion
"Entry Terms" has Ozone hole, Ozone holes, and Ozone layer depletion.

3. Title, abstract, and subject fields when reviewing database results

For example, in the Ebsco group of databases, choose the following: Academic Search Complete; America: History & Life; Applied Science & Technology Full Text; Business Source Complete; CINAHL Plus; EconLit with Full Text; Family & Society Studies Worldwide; Global Health; GreenFILE; MEDLINE; Military & Government Collection; PsycINFO; Social Work Abstracts; SocINDEX with Full Text

For this demonstration, we are not going to conduct a proper search. In the Title Field only: "climate change*" OR "global warming" OR "greenhouse effect" OR "greenhouse gases" OR "carbon footprint" OR "ozone depletion" OR "ozone hole" OR "ozone holes" OR "ozone layer depletion"

Look at the title, abstract, and subject fields. Do you see other words/phrases that will improve the search? Here are some phrases that I found:
- greenhouse gas emissions
- GREENHOUSE gas mitigation
- changes in climate
- climate-change
- climatic change
- GHG emissions
- shifting climate regimes
- EFFECT of human beings on weather

4. Merriam-Webster's online thesaurus
https://www.merriam-webster.com/
Click on thesaurus.
For example, type in: nuisance
Brown School's most frequently used databases that have a thesaurus or index
I like to use the option "Term Contains," when it is available in a thesaurus.

- Academic Search Complete
- American Bibliography of Slavic and East European Studies (Indexes and then Browse Subject)
- Anthropology Plus (Indexes and then Browse Subject Terms)
- Applied Science & Technology Full Text
- Applied Social Sciences Index & Abstracts: ASSIA
- Art Full Text
- Art, Design & Architecture Collection
- ARTbibliographies Modern: ABM
- ATLA Religion Database
- Bibliography of Asian Studies (Indexes and then Browse Subject)
- Business Source Complete
- CINAHL Plus (CINAHL Subject Headings)
- Communication Abstracts (Indexes and then Browse Subject Terms)
- Criminal Justice Database
- Criminology Collection: 1975 - current
- Design & Applied Arts Index: DAAI
- EconLit with Full Text (More and then Indexes and then Subjects All)
- Education Collection
- Education Database
- Education Full Text
- ERIC
- Ethnic NewsWatch
- Family & Society Studies Worldwide (Indexes and then Browse Subject Terms)
- Gender Studies Database (Indexes and then Browse Subject Terms)
- GenderWatch
- Global Health
- Global Health Archive
- GreenFILE
- History of Science, Technology & Medicine (Indexes and then Browse Subject, All)
- Index to Legal Periodicals & Books Full Text
- International Bibliography of Art: IBA
- International Bibliography of the Social Sciences: IBSS
- LGBT Life with Full Text
- MEDLINE (MeSH)
- Military & Government Collection (Subjects)
- PAIS Index
- Political Science Database
- Politics Collection
- PsycINFO
- PTSDpubs
- Readers' Guide Retrospective: 1890-1982
- Social Science Database
- Social Work Abstracts (Indexes and then Browse Subjects)
- SociINDEX with Full Text
- Sociological Abstracts
- Sociology Collection
- Sociology Database
- Worldwide Political Science Abstracts