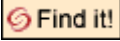


Mina Rees Library

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ERIC

WHAT IS ERIC?: ERIC, the Education Resource Information Center, offers the full text of some ERIC documents and abstracts of journal articles in education and related fields. It is an excellent source of information in the social sciences generally and can be used to supplement such resources as PsycInfo and Sociological Abstracts. Journal articles are designated by ERIC numbers beginning with EJ. Online sources for these articles are available when the  button appears. Documents from the former ERIC Clearinghouses are indicated by ERIC numbers beginning with ED and are available online from the EBSCO version of ERIC when the Full Text from ERIC link appears. This link goes to the main ERIC site (www.eric.ed.gov), offering the text of all ERIC documents from 1993 to 2004. ERIC documents ranging from ED000001 through ED462533 are available on microfiche in the microfilm cabinets on the 34th Street side of the library.


ACCESSING ERIC: The EBSCO and Cambridge Scientific Abstracts (CSA) versions are available by going to the library's Web site (library.gc.cuny.edu) and selecting *Databases*. Home access to these databases is explained at library.gc.cuny.edu/info/remote.asp. The government version of ERIC (www.eric.ed.gov) is available anywhere but does not include links to journal text.

SEARCHING THE EBSCO ERIC: The default search screen for all EBSCO databases is the Advanced Search, which allows searching by subject, author, article title, journal title, etc. The Advanced Search also allows searches to be limited to ERIC documents only or to journal articles only. (For example, the search *higher education administration* will retrieve 64 articles and 121 documents.) Many other limiters are also available. Use the Basic Search when performing a lengthy Boolean search: *information literacy and graduate students not (business or economics)*.

SEARCHING THE CSA ERIC: The default search screen for the Cambridge Scientific Abstracts ERIC is also the Advanced Search, offering the same options as the EBSCO ERIC. CSA's Quick Search corresponds to EBSCO's Basic Search.

THESAURUS: Both versions of ERIC offer a thesaurus of ERIC's subject terms. Consulting the thesaurus is a good way to narrow a search because these subject terms are more exact than keyword searching. The thesaurus is also helpful for finding the proper terms: *cognitive tests* instead of *abstraction tests*; *battered women* instead of *abused women*; *partnerships in education* instead of *academic alliances*, etc.

INDEXES: Use ERIC's indexes to browse through other elements of ERIC records. The indexes are especially good for finding variations on author names, for example, the difference between Smith, Abbie O. and Smith, Abby.

E-MAILING/PRINTING/SAVING RECORDS: In the EBSCO ERIC, click the folder icon  [Add](#) to add items to a folder. Then open your folder to e-mail, print, or save records. E-mails will include links to records which can be retrieved only when the database has been accessed through the means explained at library.gc.cuny.edu/info/remote.asp. In the CSA ERIC, check the box beside a record, then *View Marked Records*, and follow the same procedure as in EBSCO.

OTHER SOURCES: Education Full Text indexes some sources not in ERIC and offers the text of many. Academic Search Premier indexes more than 500 education titles. Social science databases such as PsycInfo and Sociological Abstracts cover education-related titles. LexisNexis offers news items. More than 230 education books can be found in NetLibrary.

For example, a September 2005 keyword search for *educational reform* found 2,556 items in Academic Search Premier; 12,130 in Education Full Text; 4,667 in the EBSCO ERIC; 4,414 in the CSA ERIC; 668 in LexisNexis (major papers, last ten years); seven in NetLibrary; 1,555 in PsycInfo; and 2,223 in Sociological Abstracts.

In addition, go to Full Text Journals, select the broad subject area *Social and Behavioral Sciences*, and then *Education* for a list of the more than 200 education periodicals available in full text.

