



Meriam Library
CSU, Chico

SPED 343/643: Overview of Special Education - Research Guide

This guide was created to assist you in locating sources for your research in Special Education, as well as other topics in the field of Education. Please keep in mind this is not a complete list of education sources and that you can always ask for additional research help from the friendly librarians at the Meriam Library Reference Desk; or contact me, Jacquie Foster, Education Subject Librarian, jsfoster@csuchico.edu; MLIB 456, 898-6168 OR use the 'click for live help' link at bottom of the ReSEARCH Station <http://www.csuchico.edu/library/> for immediate reference assistance. Use IM (instant message) to speak to CSUC librarian (when online), or to use Ask-a-Librarian Chat to speak with an academic librarian from our national cooperative 24/7 anytime.

The best place to start:

Meriam Library ReSEARCH Station www.csuchico.edu/library

Meriam Library's Home Page and your gateway to resources on ALL topics

Education Resources

a subject guide containing links to recommended databases for researching topics in Education, book catalogs, reference sources and websites, and general and course-specific research guides.

Path: ReSEARCH Station > Find Information About > Education

Alternate Path: ReSEARCH Station > Research Guides > Education

Alternate Path: ReSEARCH Station > Articles & Databases >
Databases by Subject > Education

Direct URL: <http://www.csuchico.edu/lref/guides/rbs/educ.htm>

Databases (Most useful) for Education Resources:




ERIC (Educational Resources Information Center) - includes abstracts of journal articles and ERIC documents (conference papers, teacher developed materials and other unpublished information), and full-text ERIC Digests. Eric is the largest world's largest Education database.

Note: the library subscribes to an expanded version of ERIC which contains considerably more full-text than does the free web version. Use the library link to access the library's version of ERIC via proxy-server. From off-campus you'll be prompted to use your CSU Portal login. Another benefit of using the library's version is the 'Find-It' links. When the full-text is unavailable in the ERIC database but available elsewhere in the library (electronically in another database, or via print subscription, a 'Find It' link will quickly and easily lead you to it.

Academic Search – a generic database that contains some information in almost every academic field, it does not delve deeply into any specific topic. Still what it contains is quality information, and it is often a good place to begin your research. It contains articles from Academic Journals, Magazines, Newspapers and Books/Monographs, and Educational Reports and results can easily be filtered for these specific formats.

PsycINFO – a database of information on psychology and related disciplines including Education. It contains abstracts for journal articles, books, book chapters, and dissertations ... and some full-text. 'Find-It' links will connect you to full-text when available electronically other databases or to our library catalog if we have a print subscription to the journal.

Additional Useful Databases for finding Education Resources:

Ingenta – a database of more than 11 million citations from over 20,000 journals. To search the gateway without signing in, type a keyword in the search box. After an initial keyword search has been completed, you'll be able to switch to Advanced Search to further refine your search (link located on right-side menu). Note: this is primarily a database of citations. However, some full-text is available. The following icons signify full-text accessibility, look for them:  Free content  Subscribed Content  Free Trial Content

Sage Journals Online – a collection of 419 journals published by Sage covering a broad range of disciplines including science, technology, medicine, business, and the humanities. (Limit to 'SAGE content available to me' to search free full-text. You may search all SAGE content for free abstracts, but you will be prompted to pay fee for full-text for journals we do not subscribe to through SAGE. Note: check periodicals as we might own journal in a different database or in print. If not, you may request it via Interlibrary Loan.)

SpringerLink – a collection offering more than 1,100 full-text scientific, technical, and medical journals. Includes such journals as: Journal of Science Teacher Education, Journal of Behavioral Education, Advances in Health Sciences Education, Early Childhood Education Journal, Innovative Higher Education, and Journal of Science Education & Technology, etc.

JSTOR – contains complete full-text back files (except for the last five years) of scholarly journals in such areas as sociology, history, economics, political science, mathematics, general sciences, language, literature and education.

Google Scholar

Google Scholar has been a great discovery tool for scholarly literature since its inception. Until recently, however, it was often frustrating to use because very little fee full-text was available. But now there's good news to announce! CSUC has partnered with Google Scholar and you may now link directly from your Scholar results to full-text articles in our library collection. If you're using a computer on-campus, or if you login from home using a Google Scholar link on our library website ... your Scholar preferences are already selected for you and you'll just need to look for the Find-It @ Chico link on your Scholar results. If you go to Scholar directly from an off-campus computer you will need to add this link in Scholar preferences. This is easy to do and once saved it will remain saved until you deselect it.

Three easy ways to access Google Scholar:

- Directly: scholar.google.com *
- From Google's Web Search: www.google.com *
Just follow the path: more > even more > Google Scholar
(this takes slightly longer ... but if you've forgotten Scholar's URL it's another way to get there. Plus, you can see a complete list of Google's specialized databases and products this way.)
- From our Articles & Databases page:
<http://www.csuchico.edu/lref/guides/rbn/index.htm>
Select "G" in Databases A-Z, then Google Scholar; or simply scroll down to our Quick Links to Databases A-Z and select Google Scholar. (The Find-It @ Chico link will be set up for you automatically if you access Scholar this way.)

Setting up the Find-It @ Chico link:

If you'd like to go to Google Scholar directly using your off-campus computer, just follow these instructions to set up the 'Find-It' link. Open Scholar Preferences (link next to Google Scholar basic search box), scroll to Library Links section, type CSU and click Find Library. Select CSU, Chico from the list and save preferences at either top or bottom of screen. Now you're ready to search. Find-It @ Chico links will appear if the source title is owned by Meriam Library (note: this does not necessarily mean we own the specific issue needed, unfortunately the linkage is not that sophisticated yet. Still this is a big improvement ... and a true time & money saver!)

Useful Online Reference Resources:

Biography & General Works:

- Colleges & Universities <http://www.csuchico.edu/lref/elebooks.html#col1>
 - Encyclopedia of Education: (Online Book – access via link on http://www.csuchico.edu/lref/guides/rbs/educ_3.htm and use CSUC Portal login when prompted)
 - Federal School Codes <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/FOTWWebApp/FSLookupServlet>
 - World Education Encyclopedia (Online Book – access via link on http://www.csuchico.edu/lref/guides/rbs/educ_3.htm & use CSUC Portal login when prompted)
- Learning & Teaching:
- K-12 Resources http://www.csuchico.edu/lref/guides/rbs/k12_2.htm

Statistics:

- California Education Statistics <http://ca.rand.org/stats/education/education.html>
- Education Statistics <http://www.csuchico.edu/lref/guides/rbs/edstats1.htm>
- Education Statistics at a Glance <http://nces.ed.gov/annuals/>

Useful Print Reference Resources: 2nd Floor Meriam Library

Biography & General Works:

- Biographical Dictionary of American Education (Ref – LA 2311 B54)
- Biographical Dictionary of Modern American Education (Ref – LA 2311 055)
- Education and Technology: An Encyclopedia (Ref – LB 1028.3 E17)
- International Encyclopedia of Education (Ref – LB 15 1569 1994)
- Sage Handbook of Educational Leadership (Ref – LB 2805 S262)
- World of Learning (Ref - AS2 W6)

Language & Literacy:

- Encyclopedia of Bilingualism and Bilingual Education (Ref – LC 3707 E53)
- Handbook of Early Literacy Research (Ref – LB 2806.15 I595)
- Literacy in America: an Encyclopedia of History, Theory and Practice (Ref – LC 151 L487)

Learning & Teaching:

- Handbook of Research on Teaching (Ref LB 1028 H315)
- International Handbook of Curriculum Research (Ref – LB 2806.15 I595)
- Learning Theories A-Z (Ref – LB 15 L4695)
- Standards and Schooling: an Encyclopedia (Ref - LB 2822.82 S82)

Special Education:

- Encyclopedia of Special Education (Ref – LC 4007 E53)
- Handbook of Learning Disabilities (Ref – LC 4704 H364)

Useful Websites:

- American Educational Research Association <http://www.aera.net/>
- California Department of Education <http://www.cde.ca.gov/>
- Education Statistics <http://www.csuchico.edu/lref/guides/rbs/edstats1.htm>
- Educators Reference Desk <http://www.eduref.org/>
- ERIC/U.S. Dept of Education Pathfinder
http://www.csuchico.edu/lref/guides/rbs/ERIC_Path.htm
- K-12 Education http://www.csuchico.edu/lref/guides/rbs/k12_2.htm
- Lesson Plans & Standards (k-12) <http://www.csuchico.edu/lref/guides/rbs/lp.htm>
- U.S. Department of Education <http://www.ed.gov/index.jhtml>

For more websites try ...

Google Directory <http://www.google.com/dirhp> - websites (selected by humans) and organized by topic into categories.

Dive into the categories [e.g. PATH: Reference > Education > Special Education > (Learning Disabilities, Resources & Guides, Lesson Plans, etc.)] OR search by keyword. Note: you can search the entire directory or limit search to a specific category (e.g. search only in Special Education). Excellent way to locate good credible websites.

Similar Internet Directories:

Yahoo Directory: <http://search.yahoo.com/dir?fr=yfp-t-501>

Browse categories or keyword search. Sample Path: Education > Special Education > Learning Disabilities (here too, you can stop and keyword search just within this category).

Librarian's Internet Index: lji.org

Interlibrary Loan Services:

Path: ReSEARCH Station > Interlibrary Loan (Under 'Services')

What is it?

Interlibrary Services (aka: ILL) is a service that borrows books and acquires copies of articles from journals that Meriam Library doesn't own.

How much does it cost?

Interlibrary Services is able to get 95% of requested material for free. If material is not available for free, please indicate on the form if you are willing to pay a fixed fee. When there is a charge to acquire material, you pay \$5 per article and \$10 per book request. CSU, Chico makes up the difference in actual cost, which averages \$12 per article and \$15 per book.

Meriam Library FAQ's

Q. Can I access library resources from home?

A. Yes. A CSUC Portal account is all that is needed to access the CSUC databases and eBooks. You need to open these resources using the links on the library's website and enter the databases via proxy-server, you will login using Portal name & password when prompted. A second way to enter is to go into your Portal Account first, then enter the library website using the library link. (However: Never go directly to the database site as you will circumvent the proxy ... you can only enter through the library's links.) More information available at <http://www.csuchico.edu/lcmt/newer/connect.html>.

Q. How do I find books in the Chico State Library?

A. Use the Library Catalog. From the Books tab on the Education Resources page <http://www.csuchico.edu/lref/guides/rbs/educ.htm> open the Library Catalog. (or use the Books link, upper-left corner of the ReSEARCH Station: <http://www.csuchico.edu/library/>).

Search by keyword(s) using Boolean operators. Notice you can change the search fields (keyword anywhere, keyword title, keyword subject, etc.) Note: If you have a citation and are searching for a specific book by title and/or author it is often easier to switch to an 'Author/Title/Subject' search using the tab at the top of the page. Remember, however, search terms here must appear in the exact order ... always begin title search with first words of complete title, and always enter author's last name first. When you find a book you'd like, check the status to make sure the book is not checked out ... then jot down the complete call# AND collection. Items may have the same call number but be located in different collections (main, folio, circulation & reserves, media & microforms, reference, popular, periodicals, theses, etc.). Call # alone is not sufficient.

Q. How do I find a Chico State thesis?

A. Open the Library Catalog (as described above). Search as above ... but scroll down to Limiting Fields. Use the arrow to scroll to & select 'thesis', press submit. You can also BROWSE the thesis shelves on the 3rd floor. Special Education theses will have call numbers beginning with LB or LC.

Q. When I'm searching a database how do I know if the library has the articles I want?

A. When you're in the database look for:

- links to html or PDF or "linked full text". They will take you directly to the article.
- Or, use the "Find It" links. They open the Citation Station which tells you where the full-text article is located *if we own it*. It will also link you directly to the full-text if we own it electronically in another database. Simply click the Go icon next to the database.
- If we subscribe to the journal in print the Citation Station links you to the Library Catalog and you will need to check the 'Chico Has' field (3rd from top) for the date range to see if we have the issue needed.

Q. What if I really need the article and you don't have it?

A. If we don't own the journal, you will see an Interlibrary Loan link in the Citation Station and you may request the article using this link. The citation information will automatically be transferred to the ILL request form using this link. All articles are now loaned electronically and you may access them via your Interlibrary Loan account. This can all be done from home and you will not need to come to the library. Note: you will need to complete an ILL profile the first time you request an article. This creates your ILL account. More info on Interlibrary Loans: <http://www.csuchico.edu/library/ill/ill.html>

Q. If I have a citation from a source other than a database, how do I find it?

A. Use the Periodicals List. PATH: ReSEARCH Station > Periodicals List (upper left menu). Search for the source journal ... not the article title. Note: the Periodicals List and 'Find It' connect to the same database of items. When the Citation Station opens ... click on the 'Go' icons to connect to the database. You may try plugging the journal info (issue, citation, volume, issue, etc.) into the Citation Station before clicking go. This only works sometimes ... but when it does it will take you directly to your article. When it doesn't work, try connecting without the specific info ... this will open the Journal in the database and you will need to then to search within that publication for the exact issue and article.

Q. How do I search for books the CSUC library doesn't have?

A. Select ReSEARCH Station / Library Catalogs

<http://www.csuchico.edu/library/books.htm>

Here you'll be able to search other library catalogs: the CSU libraries catalog (Pharos), the UC libraries catalog (Melvyl), the Butte County Library, and the Library of Congress. You may order books via Interlibrary Loan, but they will need to be picked up and returned to the CSUC library. If you do not live locally, it may be more convenient to order your ILL through your own home library. Note: if you have a citation for a book we do not own and you wish to order through ILL, you do not need to locate it in another library. Just complete the ILL form as completely as possible (title, author, edition, year or publication, publisher, etc.) and we'll find it for you. More info on Interlibrary Loans: <http://www.csuchico.edu/library/ill/ill.html>.

Q. Is there a way to save my searches?

A. Yes, the EBSCOHost (the umbrella company for ERIC, Academic Search, and PsycINFO) offers a free MyEBSCOHost account. If you login to this account, you may save your documents as well as your searches. You may also create an alert for newly published documents matching your search query.

SEARCHING ERIC (Meriam Library's EBSCO version)

Path: ReSEARCH Station>Find Information About > Education > ERIC

Your students are not grasping the "main idea" of the selections they are reading, and you want to find articles on how to teach 'main idea'.

Sample Search:

Find: "Main idea" Select a Field (optional)

AND "special education" Select a Field (optional)

Results: There were 18 results (as of 9/10/08 – but remember new articles may be added anytime so your number could be greater)

Sorting: The results are sorted by date. Resort by 'relevance' using dropdown menu at top of results list. Note: results may be sorted by date, relevance, author, or source.

Narrowing: You may further narrow results by subject using suggested links to left of screen. Selecting 'Reading Strategies' narrows list to 6 results, including (listed as #2 on 9/10/08):

Enhancing Main Idea Comprehension for Students with Learning Problems: The Role of a Summarization Strategy and Self-Monitoring Instruction. . By: Jitendra, Asha K.; Hoppes, Mary Kay; Xin, Yan Ping. *Journal of Special Education*, v34 n3 p127-39 Fall 2000. (EJ614777)

 [HTML Full Text](#)  [PDF Full Text](#)

Subject Searching: You may want to initiate a search by subject. If so, you'll want to browse ERIC's Thesaurus for correct subject headings to use. To open, Click 'Thesaurus' (on blue bar across top of screen). The Thesaurus opens and is located beneath the green line under ERIC's search box. Type 'Reading Comprehension' in the 'Browse for' box (select 'term contains') & click browse. The top result is Reading Comprehension and it is an active link. Click it to divide it into smaller sub-categories. See examples of Broader Terms and Related Terms. These, too, are active links and may be further divided OR you may select the subject heading at any level and add it to your search. Select 'Directed Reading Activity' and click 'add'. Note: the search box at top now says: DE "Directed Reading Activity" (DE stands for Descriptor which is ERIC's name for subject headings). Now click search and you should retrieve 398 results (as of 9/10/08). The advanced search screen is back and we may further modify our search by adding additional keywords and/or descriptors. Add AND: "special education" on second line. Our results are narrowed to 5, but no full-text. Note: These citations are from the 1970's and 1980's and the library has a complete collection of older Eric docs (pre-1989) in our 'media & microforms collection, 2nd floor. They are filed by the ED number: (ED257046).