Welcome to Bell Library and to ERIC

• ERIC is the Education Resources Information Center and is probably the most comprehensive and one of the most important resources in the education field.

• This tutorial takes you step by step through the process of searching this database.
The ERIC Database

• It is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education.
• Coverage is from 1966 to the present.
What ERIC Contains

There are two basic kinds of materials indexed by ERIC:

• Journal articles and
• ERIC documents
ERIC documents include a number of different kinds of materials ranging from papers presented at conferences to technical reports, policy papers, curriculum guides, and so on. Books and dissertations are sometimes included in the database as ERIC documents.
• **Advanced Search** is the default search and the recommended one as this option gives you the greatest flexibility.
• If you are uncertain about what words to enter into the search boxes, click on the **Thesaurus tab** near the top of the screen. The Thesaurus contains vocabulary words used by ERIC.
Searching ERIC

- Notice the other **command tabs** across the top of the search screen.
- Click inside the search box(es) to enter your keyword(s) or phrase(s).
- It helps to enter each concept in a separate box.
- Click on the **Search** button.
Searching ERIC

The Results screen allows you to Refine your results in a number of ways—Publication Date, Subject, Publication, and many more.

• Click on Show More to see additional ways to limit.
Searching ERIC

- Records contain abstracts or summaries of document content.
- Place the mouse over the magnifying glass icon to view the abstracts.
- Abstracts can save you time by helping you determine the usefulness of a document.
How to View

• After you execute a search, you will see a list of search results.
• Click on the **blue link** of the article title to see the complete citation or reference to the article or document.
How to View

In some cases, but not all, the full text will be available. If you see a **PDF** icon or **HTML** link, the full text is available through the ERIC database.
How to View

If you see an **LS** or **Find full text** link, follow it to see if the full text is available in another database or in print and/or microform in Bell Library.
How to View

In the individual records, use the Cite icon under Tools to see your results in various citation styles, such as APA, MLA, etc.
Advanced Search Tips

• From the Results page or the individual record, it is possible to Refine your results in a number of different ways, such as Peer Reviewed, Date Published, Journal Name, Journal or Document, Educational Level, Publication Type, etc. Choose limits according to your needs.
• Re-execute the search with the selected limits.
Print, E-Mail, Save, or Export

- You can work with individual records or you can capture multiple records at the same time by clicking the **Add to Folder** icon below the citation.
- To access items saved, click on the **Folder View** link under the **Folder has items** heading on the right side of the screen.
Print, E-Mail, Save, or Export

Use the Print, E-mail, Save, or Export icons on the right side of the screen to choose the appropriate delivery option for your search results.
Choosing Citation Style

Notice that you can choose to Save results in the Citation Format of your choice—APA, MLA, etc.
To save your results for future use, create your own personal My EBSCOhost account. Instructions are online. Results and other items can then be saved and retrieved from any Internet-accessible computer.
If you need help, don’t hesitate to contact librarians at the Reference Desk, at (361) 825-2609. We also encourage you to use the Ask a Librarian E-mail Reference Service. Its link can be found under “Help” on the Library’s homepage, http://rattler.tamu-cc.edu.

Happy Searching!