Finding peer-reviewed articles

- Education Research Complete
- Education Full Text
- ERIC
- Quest

Database searching tips

- Use quotation marks to search for an exact phrase
  - Ex. “Response to intervention”
- Use truncation (*) to search for words with multiple endings
  - Autis* = both “autistic” and “autism”
  - Disab* = “disabled” “disability” “disabilities”
- Use Boolean Operators (AND, OR, & NOT) to narrow or broaden your search
  - Searching with AND narrows your search with each word or phrase you add. It asks the database for only those results with both / all of the entered words or phrases.
    - “Literacy” AND “Adolescents”
  - Using OR makes your search broader. You are asking the database for either / any of the words or phrases.
    - ESL OR ELL
    - Teens OR Adolescents
  - Using NOT narrows your search by removing some of your search results.
    - ELL NOT Spanish
- Use the in-database thesaurus (or a standard thesaurus) to find synonyms to your keyword
- Use the subject headings (these may differ by database) to find related articles
- You can also:
  - Limit to only peer-reviewed publications
  - Limit to only those articles available in full text in that particular database
  - Limit by publication date (see only articles published in, for example, the last 5 years)
  - Limit by geography (Ex. United States)
  - Limit by document type (Ex. Article. This is especially important in ERIC)
- If an article isn’t available in full text in one database don’t give up! You can:
  - Click the “Find full text” button to search for the article in other UMW Libraries databases
  - Use ILL (Inter-library Loan) to have a copy of the article sent from another library. (You can do the same thing with books!) http://libraries.umw.edu/interlibrary-loan-ill/

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Need help? Contact your Stafford Campus Library!

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<th>In person</th>
<th>Phone or email</th>
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<td>South building</td>
<td>540-286-8025</td>
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