Research Guide: Education and Diversity

♦ Identify a topic

To find an Overview of the topic and select key search terms and concepts, try a subject specific reference source such as:

- *Holiday Symbols and Customs* [Ref GT3930.H65]
- *Let's Celebrate Today: Calendars, Events, and Holidays* [Ref GT3930.M35 1998]

♦ To locate Books & other materials in our library

Search STL Catalog, to find books on your topic:

**BASIC search:**
- **Subject word(s) search examples:**
  - Gender bias
  - Autism
  - Discrimination in Education-United States
  - Lesson Plans Black and/or Latino Children’s Literature
- **Words anywhere (keyword):** Use this option for names or unique terms
  - Oppositional defiant
  - Hispanic literature children
  - Diverse learners
ADVANCED Search:

- Combine terms such as adhd AND education
- Use advanced search feature to limit to a specific collection:
  Examples: **Word(s) anywhere: multicultural** (limited to juvenile collection)
  **Subject: special education** (limited to reference collection)
  **Title: Horn Book** (limited by format - journals)

Consult Databases available on the library’s web page (lib.newpaltz.edu) to locate citations to journal articles about your topic.

*Eric, Education Research Complete, Academic Search Premier (Ebsco)* - (Limit to journal articles in ERIC and “peer-reviewed” journal titles in Academic Search Premier). Search ERIC by itself to use the Thesaurus.

*ERIC (CSA Illumina): use this version for topics related to* human services, and related areas, including social welfare, social policy, and community development. The database abstracts and indexes over 1,406 serials publications. (May combine with Social Services Abstracts and/or Sociological Abstracts.)

*Gale Literature Resource Center*: good starting place for biographical information and criticism.

*JSTOR*: archival source for full text of articles from scholarly sources (Sociology, Literature, Education, African American Studies, etc.).

*One File (Infotrac)* – A great starting point to scholarly journals, and magazines (with some full text and images).

*ProQuest Research Library* - Access 3,000+ scholarly journals, magazines & (with some full text )

Examples of professional AND/OR peer-reviewed (scholarly) journals:

*Educational Studies, Educational Research, The Reading Teacher, Art Education, Child Development, Gifted Child Today, Reading Research Quarterly*

Use **Find it at New Paltz** for full text access (separate handout).

Use **WebFeat** to search multiple sources at one time (under WebFeat tab on STL homepage – click on “Go to WebFeat Advanced Search.”)

Do an Internet Search using your favorite search engine, making sure to evaluate the results according to: accuracy, currency, coverage, authority, objectivity. Use **Google Scholar** (go to Google and click on “more,”) then set your scholar preferences to SUNY New Paltz).