

# Education Resources Information Center (ERIC)

## What is the ERIC?

The ERIC (Education Resources Information Center) is a bibliographic database sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education to provide extensive access to educational-related literature. ERIC provides ready access to education literature to augment American education by increasing and facilitating the use of educational research and information to improve practice in learning, teaching, educational decision-making, and research. ERIC provides coverage of journal articles, conferences, meetings, government documents, theses, dissertations, reports, audiovisual media, bibliographies, directories, books and monographs. Many of the items are available in full text.

## Accessing ERIC

ERIC is accessed via the **E-resources Guide**.

1. To open the E-resources Guide, go to: <http://subjectguides.york.ac.uk/e-resources>
2. When the E-resources guide has opened select the **E** tab from the A-Z list at the top of the screen. An alphabetical list of resources is then displayed.
3. Click on the **ERIC (EBSCO)**. You may be asked to log in with your IT Services username and password. The resource will now open in a new window.
4. A list of databases available to you via the EBSCO service will be displayed. Select **ERIC** and click on **Continue**.

## Searching ERIC

ERIC has two search options Basic Search and Advanced Search, we recommend that you use the Advanced Search.

The screenshot shows the EBSCO Advanced Search interface. The search bar contains the query "coeducation OR 'single sex'". Below the search bar, there are three separate search boxes, each with a "Select a Field (option...)" dropdown menu. Callout boxes provide the following information:

- Link concepts together with AND/OR/NOT**: Points to the dropdown menus for selecting search operators.
- Multiple search boxes allow you to build up your search. Use a separate box for each concept.**: Points to the individual search input boxes.
- The drop-down menus allow you to narrow your search field e.g. Author, Title, Subject Terms etc.**: Points to the "Select a Field (option...)" dropdown menus.
- Use the *Limit your results* options to limit your search by date, publication, language etc.**: Points to the "Limit your results" section, which includes options for Full Text, Peer Reviewed, Date Published, Available on microfiche, Journal Name, and ERIC Number.

As you type a list of predictive terms will appear, be aware that these are not related to the controlled language terms (thesaurus/subject) so may not be useful to you.



## Viewing your search results

Your results will display as a list of references:

The screenshot shows a search results interface with the following callout boxes:

- Shows you the number of items found.** Points to the text "Search Results: 1 - 10 of 289".
- Select items by clicking on the folder icon.** Points to the folder icon in the top right corner of the results list.
- Click on the Full Text from Eric link to open the full text on ERIC, if it is available.** Points to the "Full Text from ERIC" link for the first result.
- You can refine the results in various ways e.g. limit by Full-Text or Peer Reviewed.** Points to the "Limit To" section on the left, specifically the "Full Text" and "Peer Reviewed" checkboxes.
- Click on Find it @ York to check whether the full text of an article is available.** Points to the "Find It @ York" button for the first result.
- Preview the abstract by hovering over the magnifying glass icon.** Points to the magnifying glass icon in the top right corner of the results list.

## Printing, saving and emailing your results

You can select references from your results list to print, email or save.

1. Click on the **Add to folder** button displayed to the right of each title to mark your selection.
2. The folder where your saved titles are stored is in the top right hand corner of the screen. Click on the icon to open it.
3. Select the references you are interested in then choose the from the following options:
  - To print your results, click on the printer icon
  - To email your results, click on the mail icon and enter the email address to be used.
  - To save your results, click on the save icon . In the **File Download** dialogue box, click the Save button. You will then need to give a filename and identify a drive to save to.
  - To Export your results directly to EndNote or EndNote Web, click on the export icon

## Search tips

**And** combines search terms so that each search result contains all of the terms. For example, coeducation and school finds results that contain both terms.

**Or** combines search terms so that each search result contains at least one of the terms. For example, teenager or adolescent finds results that contain either term.

**Wildcard (?):** use an question mark to replace a single letter anywhere in a word, except the first character. Wildcards are particularly useful for finding variations in spelling, for example wom?n finds results that contain either woman or women.

**Truncation (\*):** use an asterisk to truncate a word and find all the words made by adding letters to the end of it. For example, polic\* finds results that contain the terms policy or policies or policed etc.

On screen help is available by clicking **Help** (in the top right hand corner of the screen).

