

SPECIAL EDUCATION LIBRARY RESOURCE GUIDE

SHAKE LIBRARY, VINCENNES UNIVERSITY

Compiled by Joseph Helms, Reference Librarian, September 2009

The purpose of this guide is to introduce some of the resources available in Shake Library related to special education. This guide is not a comprehensive listing of sources, but is intended to be a starting point where one can begin research according to one's specific needs.

Directions to Library Website

To access online resources and other information about library services, go to VU's website at <http://www.vinu.edu>, then click on **Majors and Academics**, and then click **Libraries**.

Types of Research Literature

The two major types of research literature available for students and researchers are primary literature and secondary literature. Below we will take a look at each since you need to use resources for your paper/project from both primary sources and secondary sources.

Primary Literature

This is information that comes directly from the researcher. It contains original data or ideas and is generally the first published record of an investigation, often referring to methodology and particular results. This type of literature is most often located in the following:

- Research articles published in scholarly (peer-reviewed or refereed) journals where the articles have been evaluated by subject experts prior to publishing;
- Published conference proceedings;
- Doctoral dissertations or master's degree theses;
- Internet resources such as websites for professional associations, conferences, or academics' personal web pages where the primary literature has been archived;
- Government agencies or private organizations that have sponsored or funded research projects; and
- Published research monographs (books).

Secondary Literature

This is information that does not come directly from the researcher. This type of literature is normally a review, overview, or summary of someone's research. The writer may be an expert in the subject matter or a non-specialist. It is often written in a non-technical manner for public reading. Generally, secondary literature is located in the following:

- Review articles published in scholarly journals;
- Articles published in trade publications, magazines, or newspapers;
- Published abstracts providing a summary or overview of the research;
- Encyclopedias, especially subject encyclopedias;
- Reference handbooks;
- Books, including textbooks; and
- Internet resources, especially from professional associations or organizations.

Find Books

VU Libraries provide two online resources for searching books and other materials in the collections of VU Libraries (VU WebCat) and the collections of libraries within Indiana and outside Indiana (WorldCat). From the library website, click on **Find Books** on left side of page, and then select either **VU WebCat** for the Vincennes Campus or **WorldCat**.

VU WebCat (Library Catalog)

WebCat is VU's computerized catalog of books, electronic books, videotapes, music CDs, periodical subscriptions, and some useful web sites. The researcher can find materials quickly using the Keyword Search function, which offers more flexibility in searching. Keyword Search supports the following search functions:

- Author name searching
- Title searching
- Subject searching (use terms like autistic children, autism, children with disabilities, dyslexia, dyslexic children, inclusive education, learning disabilities, learning disabled, mainstreaming, special education, etc.)
- Keyword searching
- Phrase searching

WorldCat

VU Libraries are part of the *WorldCat* network of over 10,000 participating libraries worldwide that contribute information about its collections to a worldwide union catalog. This database is the largest and most comprehensive of its kind in the world.

Key facts about *WorldCat*:

- More than 140 million bibliographic records and over 1 billion individual holdings of contributing libraries
- Records represent hundreds of languages and cultures in more than 110 countries and territories worldwide
- Popular, rare and one-of-a-kind resources are in the database
- Cataloged items span thousands of years and nearly every form of human expression; records exist for physical items, electronic content, digital works, and digitally preserved artifacts
- Users can initiate electronically an interlibrary loan request for items not owned by Shake Library

The link to *WorldCat* is located on the library's Find Books web page and is a few links down from the link to *VU WebCat*. The recommendation is to use the **Advanced Search** function when using *WorldCat*. When viewing your *WorldCat* search results, you may notice several records to the same title. This is normally due to the fact that the title has been published in different formats (hardcover, paperback, microform, electronic, etc.) or different editions.

Google Book Search – <http://books.google.com>

Google Book Search is an internet-based resource that allows you to search Google's index of books. Once you select a given book from your search results, you can browse available pages, search further in that book, learn where to buy the book or check to see if a nearby library owns a

copy. Book titles that are in the public domain will be available full text. Google is building its growing book index through partnerships with publishers and libraries. The recommendation is to use the **Advanced Search** function.

Below is a selected list of book titles in the library's collection related to various areas of special education.

- *Accessing the General Curriculum: Including Students with Disabilities in Standards-Based Reform*, 2007 (371.9046 N791a)
- *Assessment in Special and Inclusive Education*, 2007 (371.26 S184as)
- *Autism: Teaching Does Make a Difference*, 2002 (371.94 S328a)
- *Blended Curriculum in the Inclusive K-3 Classroom: Teaching All Young Children*, 2008 (371.904 L328b)
- *Children and Youth with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders: A History of Their Education*, 2006 (371.94 K21c)
- *Differentiating Instruction in Inclusive Classrooms: The Special Educator's Guide*, 2005 (371.9046 H111d)
- *Dyslexia and Mathematics*, 2004 (371.91 D998m)
- *Educating Students with Behavior Disorders*, 2004 (371.93 E24r)
- *Encyclopedia of Education & Human Development*, 2005, Gale Virtual Reference Library (Online through [VU Libraries Electronic Book Collections](#))
- *Encyclopedia of Educational Psychology*, 2008, Gale Virtual Reference Library (Online through [VU Libraries Electronic Book Collections](#))
- *Encyclopedia of Learning Disabilities*, 2006 (Ref. Collection, 371.9 T939e)
- *Encyclopedia of School Psychology*, 2005 (Ref. Collection, 370.15 E56s)
- *History of Inclusion in the United States*, 2005 (371.952 O82h)
- *Learning Disabilities: Bridging the Gap Between Research and Classroom Practice*, 2007 (371.9 M169L)
- *Learning Disabilities: Foundations, Characteristics, and Effective Teaching*, 2005 (371.9 L438h)
- *Learning Disabilities: From Identification to Intervention*, 2007 (371.9 L438f)
- *Making Inclusion Work: Effective Practices for all Teachers*, 2006 (371.9046 B369m)
- *Quick-Guides to Inclusion: Ideas for Educating Students with Disabilities*, 2007 (371.9046 Q6g)
- *Psychology of Classroom Learning: An Encyclopedia*, 2009, Gale Virtual Reference Library (Online through [VU Libraries Electronic Book Collections](#))
- *Spelling, Handwriting and Dyslexia: Overcoming Barriers to Learning*, 2007 (372.63 M787s)
- *Teaching Language Arts, Math & Science to Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities*, 2006 (371.92 T253t)
- *Teaching Mathematics to All Children: Designing and Adapting Instruction to Meet the Needs of Diverse Learners*, 2006 (372.7 T891t)

Find Articles: Periodical Databases

Shake Library provides a good selection of databases to use in locating articles on specific topics in the periodical literature – journals, magazines, newspapers, trade publications, etc. After accessing an online database, use the help information available with that database to become familiar with its search options. If you need assistance with using a database, please ask for help

from a librarian at the Reference Desk. Use the directions above to go to the library's website, and then click **Find Articles** located on left side of the page. Given below are brief descriptions of periodical database products carried by the library that provide to education-related topics.

ERIC (EBSCOhost)

ERIC (Educational Research Information Center), from the U.S. Department of Education, has provided access to the education literature for more than forty years. There are links to full text journal articles and links to more than 100,000 *ERIC* documents. **When using this resource, it is highly recommended to use the ERIC Thesaurus to find the appropriate subject descriptor(s) for your topic(s).** Some key descriptors for special education include: behavior disorders, hearing impairments, inclusive schools, language impairments, learning disabilities, mainstreaming, multiple disabilities, severe disabilities, special education, special education teachers, and special needs students. You can also search the ERIC government website at < <http://www.eric.ed.gov/> >.

Professional Development Collection (EBSCOhost)

This resource is a specialized collection of journal articles and educational reports for professional educators. The database currently has over 500 education journals, of which 350 are peer-reviewed titles, and more than 200 educational reports. **Before searching, it is a good idea to check your search term(s) by using the Subjects search function found at the top of the search page.**

Academic Search Premier (EBSCOhost)

This is the main academic periodical database provided to students and faculty. The database has the full text from 4,500 journals, of which 3,700 are peer-reviewed titles. There are journal titles related to special education in this database. **Before searching, it is a good idea to check your search term(s) by using the Subject Terms search function found at the top of the search page.**

ProQuest

ProQuest provides access to the content from several thousand periodical titles, including titles from different fields within education. **Before searching, it is a good idea to check your search term(s) by using the Topics search function found at the top of the search page.**

Key Special Education Journals

- *Annals of Dyslexia* – ERIC, Professional Development, Academic Search Premier, and ProQuest
- *Developmental Disabilities Research Reviews* – Academic Search Premier
- *Exceptional Children* – ERIC, Professional Development, Academic Search Premier, and ProQuest
- *Exceptionality: The Official Journal of the Division for Research of the Council for Exceptional Children* – ERIC, Professional Development, and Academic Search Premier
- *Focus on Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities* – ERIC and Academic Search Premier (1996-2008)
- *Focus on Exceptional Children* – ERIC, Professional Development, Academic Search Premier, and ProQuest

- *Intervention in School and Clinic* – ERIC, Professional Development, Academic Search Premier, and ProQuest
- *Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (formerly Mental Retardation)* – Indexed in ERIC and Academic Search Premier; library carries paper copy
- *International Journal of Special Education* – ERIC and Directory of Open Access Journals
- *International Journal of Disability, Development & Education* – ERIC, Professional Development Collection, and Academic Search Premier
- *Journal of Applied Research in Intellectual Disabilities* – ERIC, Professional Development Collection, and Academic Search Premier
- *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders* – ERIC, Academic Search Premier, and ProQuest
- *Journal of Developmental and Physical Disabilities* – Academic Search Premier
- *Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders* – ERIC, Professional Development, Academic Search Premier, and ProQuest
- *Journal of Intellectual & Developmental Disability* – ERIC, Professional Development, and Academic Search Premier
- *Journal of Intellectual Disability Research* – ERIC and Academic Search Premier
- *Journal of Learning Disabilities* – ERIC, Professional Development, Academic Search Premier, and ProQuest
- *Journal of Special Education* – ERIC, Professional Development, Academic Search Premier, and ProQuest
- *Learning Disabilities – A Contemporary Journal* – Academic Search Premier
- *Learning Disabilities Research and Practice* – ERIC, Professional Development, and Academic Search Premier
- *Learning Disability Quarterly* – ERIC, Professional Development, Academic Search Premier, and ProQuest
- *Reclaiming Children and Youth* – ERIC, Professional Development Collection, Academic Search Premier, and ProQuest
- *Remedial and Special Education* – ERIC, Professional Development, Academic Search Premier, and ProQuest
- *Research and Practice for Persons with Severe Disabilities* – ERIC and Academic Search Premier
- *Rural Special Education Quarterly* – ERIC, Professional Development, Academic Search Premier, and ProQuest
- *Teaching Exceptional Children* – Professional Development and Academic Search Premier
- *Teaching Exceptional Children Plus* – Directory of Open Access Journals
- *Topics in Early Childhood Special Education* – ERIC, Professional Development, Academic Search Premier, and ProQuest

Interlibrary Loan

Interlibrary Loan and Document Delivery are services offered free of charge to VU students, faculty and staff whereby materials not owned by Shake Library may be requested from other libraries. Library patrons have two methods to order materials electronically through interlibrary loan. Materials may be requested through the *WorldCat* database or through use of online forms (one for books and one for articles) found on the library's Interlibrary Loan website. **The recommendation is you request needed materials at the very beginning of your research.**