UNDERSTANDING AND USING ONLINE RESOURCES
PRESENTED BY BARBARA STILLWELL | NATIONAL UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
TODAY’S GOALS

- Learn general research techniques for locating online library information
  - Where to search for articles
  - How to search for articles
- Be able to contact the library for assistance
BARBARA STILLWELL -- EDUCATION LIBRARIAN

- Located at the Spectrum Library, 9393 Lightwave Ave, San Diego CA 92123
- Library point of contact for the Sanford College of Education
- Available by appointment: https://nu.libwizard.com/consultation
- bstillwell@nu.edu | 858-541-7943
- refdesk@nu.edu | 858-541-7900
- http://library.nu.edu/
Consider a research topic you might choose for this emphasis.

Select at least 15 scholarly publications that you might use to examine this topic.

At least ten must have a publication date within the last five years.

At least three must be related to action research.

For each publication, provide the following:

- the research topic you are considering;
- an alphabetized, APA-formatted reference;
- a short summary;
- a discussion of how it will inform your research.
Just as an index at the back of a book lets you quickly go to a topic within the book, online indexes and databases quickly sort through thousands of records to identify articles or books on a topic.

Before you choose a database for your search, it is helpful to know some fundamentals about searching.
The parts of each record or citation in an index or database are searchable. These parts are called fields.

When you search by a field, the computer will "look" only in that field when it looks through all the records in the database. It will try to match your search term.
KEYWORD SEARCHING

- Allows you to search all the fields of a record at the same time
- Allows you to combine more than one topic in a search, for example, “critical thinking and students"
The library home page has many options:

- Find Articles
- A-Z Database List
- Subject & Course Guides > Teacher Education
- Smart Search

http://library.nu.edu/
LOCATING EDUCATION ARTICLES

- Library databases contain articles from magazines, newspapers, and scholarly & peer-reviewed journals
- Recommended databases for education research
  - EBSCO Databases for Educators
  - ProQuest Education Database

https://nu.libguides.com/articles
SEARCH STRATEGY PROCESS

- Write a clear statement of your topic
- Divide your topic into major concepts
- Select terms to express those concepts
- Use AND & OR to connect terms

- Using critical thinking in science classrooms to help students wrestle with difficulties, hardship, problem solving.
- How does project based learning help develop comprehension in high school biology students?
- Creating lesson plans in high school English class that teach students conceptual understandings that go beyond content area and are applicable outside the classroom (aka real world).
- Click the SSO button
- Follow the prompts as you would to access SOAR or your Blackboard course
DATABASE SEARCH SCREENS

- **Basic**
  - For one or two concepts

- **Advanced**
  - For two or more concepts
  - One idea per line
  - Synonyms on same line
  - Other options
1. **Student Perception on Group Work and Group Assignments in Classroom Teaching: The Case of Bule Hora University Second Year Biology Students, South Ethiopia--An Action Research**


   Group learning has become a common practice in schools and tertiary institutions. It provides more comfortable and supportive learning environment than solitary work. It fosters critical thinking...

   **Subjects:** Student Attitudes; Assignments; Semi Structured Interviews; Biology; Science Instruction; Focus Groups; Accountability; Cooperative Learning; Problem Solving; Case Studies; College Students; Critical Thinking; Action Research; Foreign Countries; Science Teachers; College Faculty; Teacher Attitudes; Qualitative Research; Ethiopia

2. **Using Critical Thinking Teaching Methods to Increase Student Success: An Action Research Project**


   Numerous studies and United States Department of Education reports indicate that university graduates lack critical thinking and problem solving skills that are needed for success in both the cla...

   **Subjects:** Critical Thinking; Teaching Methods; Action Research; Research Projects; Learning Strategies; Questionnaires; Thinking Skills; Statistical Analysis; Correlation; Self Efficacy; Undergraduate Students; Motivated Strategies for Learning Questionnaire; Florida
Effects of a critical thinking skills program on the learning motivation of primary school students.

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Keywords: critical thinking, deep motivation, delayed effects, 'Learn to Think' intervention program, learning motivation, long-term intervention, primary school students, thinking ability

Abstract: Learning motivation has a significant effect on student learning, which is a key determinant of academic performance and creativity. It is increasingly popular and important to cultivate learning motivation in schools. To consider this trend, a long-term intervention program named 'Learn to Think' (LTT) was designed not only to improve students' thinking ability but also to improve their learning motivation. The present study explored the effects of the LTT curriculum on primary school students' learning motivation. The sample consisted of 158 Chinese primary school students, who were randomly assigned to experimental and control groups. Experimental students participated in the LTT curriculum for 4 years, with data collected via pretests, annual end-of-year assessments, and a delayed posttest administration 1 year after terminating the training. The results suggest that LTT had long-term transfer effects on the development of primary school students' learning motivation, especially on deep motivation. (PsychINFO Database Record (c) 2018 APA, all rights reserved)

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ITI680 SAMPLE SEARCHES FOR YOU TO EXPLORE

https://nu.libguides.com/teach/search-strategy
TOP 5 TAKEAWAYS

- Use the NU Library website when you need scholarly resources [http://library.nu.edu/](http://library.nu.edu/)
- Find subject-specific resources on the Teacher Education Guide [https://nu.libguides.com/teach/](https://nu.libguides.com/teach/)
- Search with key words and related terms
- Use database tools to focus your results
- Contact a librarian when you need help