



## Library Resources for Education Frequently Asked Questions

<http://libguides.regis.edu/library>

### **What is ERIC?**

ERIC (Educational Resource Information Center) is an online index that includes article citations, abstracts, and links to some full-text articles from over 1,000 educational journals, as well as citations and abstracts to thousands of ERIC documents. ERIC covers from 1966 to the present and is updated monthly. It uses a controlled subject vocabulary, found online in the *Thesaurus of ERIC Descriptors*. You can reach ERIC remotely by using your RegisNET account log-on.

### **What is an ERIC document?**

ERIC documents include conference papers, teaching guides, research reports, bibliographies, issue papers, instructional materials, and test and evaluation instruments. They are identified in the ERIC database with an accession number that begins with ED.

### **What's the difference between an ERIC document (ED) and an ERIC journal article (EJ)?**

ERIC documents are generally unpublished materials, such as papers read at conferences or reports from state agencies. Journal articles usually undergo some sort of editorial scrutiny, or even review by a panel of experts (peer review) before they are published.

### **Can I get the full text of ERIC documents from the ERIC database?**

When you are viewing your results from an ERIC search, you may see links that say "Full text from ERIC". These links will lead you to the ERIC.gov site to retrieve the document.

### **How do I find primary research articles in ERIC?**

- Use ERIC "Advanced Search" (default search screen)
- Enter your subject term in the first box
- Under Limit your results:
  - Select the "Peer Reviewed" box
  - "Journal or Document" option: select "Journal Articles"
  - "Publication Type" option: select "Reports—Research"

### **How do I find out what education journals Regis Libraries subscribe to?**

Check *Lumen*, the Regis Library Catalog, which will indicate if we subscribe to the journal online or in print. *Lumen* can be accessed from the *Books* tab on the Library home page. Be sure to talk to a reference librarian if you have any questions. The Reference Desk phone number is 303-458-4031, or 1-800-388-2366, ext. 4031; or you can reach us by e-mail at [library@regis.edu](mailto:library@regis.edu).

### **How do I get articles that are not available online through ERIC?**

The Regis Library subscribes to many education journals, so we may have the article online or in print. Interlibrary loan (ILL) is a system of borrowing items from libraries other than the Regis University Library. You can also use ILL to have items from Regis Library sent to any Regis Colorado campus, or, if you are a distance student, to your home or work address. ILL is available to all Regis students, faculty and staff. For ILL requests, go to the *Interlibrary Loan* tab on the Library home page, then select "Interlibrary Loan login."

**How do I get ERIC documents that are not available full text?**

Some ERIC documents are not available full text through the ERIC database, but we may have them at the Dayton Memorial Library on microfiche. If you are a distance student, we will print out and send ERIC documents provided they are no longer than 40 pages. There are some items, such as trade press books, that are indexed in ERIC but not available through the ERIC database that may be available otherwise. Confused? Check with a reference librarian.

**Are there times when I shouldn't use ERIC documents?**

If your instructor tells you that you must use journal articles, you shouldn't use an ERIC document. Remember that many ERIC documents don't undergo the same editorial scrutiny as journal articles, so you'll need to be critical of their authority and content.

**How do I find books on education topics?**

The *Prospector* catalog is a good place to start. Prospector shows the holdings of many Colorado libraries, including Regis and other universities and colleges. You can borrow books directly from participating libraries and have them sent to a Regis Colorado campus for pickup. If you are a distance student, you can have books sent to you using our online Interlibrary Loan system to place your request. Prospector and Interlibrary Loan are both under the *Interlibrary Loan* tab on the Library home page.

**How do I find information about and reviews of standardized tests?**

*Mental Measurements Yearbook* contains full-text information about and reviews of all English-language standardized tests covering educational skills, personality and vocational aptitude. The text for each record includes an overview of the test, a description of the test materials and time needed, and one or more reviews of the test. *Mental Measurements Yearbook* is available on the Education research guide and through the *A to Z Database List* under the *Articles* tab on the Library home page.

**I'm still not finding what I need. Who should I talk to?**

Contact the Reference Desk at the Dayton Memorial Library, Lowell Campus: 303-458-4031; 800-388-2366, ext. 4031; library@regis.edu.

**Regis University Libraries: <http://libguides.regis.edu/library>**