LIBRARY RESOURCES FOR
GRADUATE EDUCATION COURSES

FINDING BACKGROUND MATERIAL IN THE REFERENCE COLLECTION

Why look for material in the reference collection? Why start your research here? There are several good reasons:

- To gain an overview or historical background on your subject;
- To get suggestions for further reading;
- To get ideas on choosing a topic, or broadening or narrowing your topic.

The specialized encyclopedias and other reference books listed below (in call number order) may be of help to you. They cover a wide range of topics related to the many aspects of education. You can access all of the online resources by starting at the library home page.

Comprehensive Handbook of Psychological Assessment  REF BF 176.C654 2004 vols 1-4
Contains reviews of tests on many different subjects, including many related to teaching and learning.
Salem Health: Psychology and Mental Health  REF BF 636.BF 636.P86 2010 vols 1-5 Also available in Salem Health
Encyclopedia of Sociology  REF HM 425.BF 425.E5 2000 vols 1-5 Also available in Gale Virtual Reference Library
Encyclopedia of Children, Adolescents and Media  REF HQ 734.BF 734.E53 GVRL
Encyclopedia of Educational Psychology  REF LB 1050.BF 1050.E63 2008 vols 1-2 Also available in GVRL
Psychology of Classroom Learning: An Encyclopedia  REF LB 1060.BF 1060.P89 2009 Also available in GVRL
Encyclopedia of Diversity in Education  REF LC 1099.BF 1099.E53 2012 vols 1-4
Encyclopedia of Curriculum Studies  REF LB 2806.BF 2806.E48 2010 vols 1-2 Also available in GVRL
Encyclopedia of Bilingualism and Bilingual Education  REF LC 3707.BF 3707.E53 1997
Encyclopedia of Special Education  REF LC 4007.BF 4007.E53 2007 vols 1-3 Also available in GVRL
Credo Reference, online
Gale Virtual Reference Library, online
Includes reference titles such as the Encyclopedia of Adolescence, the Encyclopedia of Children and Childhood in History and Society, The Encyclopedia of Educational Law, the Encyclopedia of Education, the Gale Encyclopedia of Psychology, plus many more.

Oxford Reference Online
Note: If you are viewing this on your instructor’s Moodle website, or the Guides link on the library website, note that this guide contains many live hyperlinks.

FINDING MATERIAL IN THE CATALOG

Kelly Library belongs to a consortium of libraries known as HAL (Holston Associated Libraries), and has a catalog that contains the holdings of its four members (E & H, King University, Washington County Public Library and Tazewell County Public Library). Your valid student ID will let you borrow books from any of these libraries. Also, you can request items through the catalog, and have them delivered to Kelly Library. Besides containing the holdings of four libraries, the catalog has other powerful features, such as many ways to search and the ability to limit your search. Look at the example on the following page.

The top screen shot shows a subject search (reading disability) and the bottom shot shows a portion of the results of that search. The information is provides it is typical bibliographical info (author, title, place of publication, publisher and date). Also, please note that when you click on a title, there are more subject headings toward the bottom of the record, and that they are links to more material in the catalog.
Because education is such a huge field, there are way too many headings to list in this guide. Do a **subject** search in the catalog on **education**; you will see a list of **suggested and related headings** that might help you get started on your research.

Note: these are just suggestions—there are many more related headings. Also, when you look in the catalog, you may find that the HAL libraries do not own many books under some of these headings. Or, perhaps you are looking for more recent information. **World Catalog** can help you identify titles, and **interlibrary loan** can help you obtain them. There will be more discussion of this later in the guide.

**FINDING MATERIAL BY USING DATABASES**

Kelly Library subscribes to several databases that will be useful in helping you locate material for research projects and papers in this major. All of them are available through the **Journal Articles and Databases** link. A good place to start would be the **EBSCO** databases. They are partially full-text and
include both popular and scholarly periodicals in a wide variety of academic fields. Try Academic Search Complete, Education Research Complete, Psychology and Behavioral Sciences Collection, and Teacher Reference Center. The user interfaces are very similar, so if you have used ASC for research in other classes, you shouldn’t have problems with the others.

See the sample search below on math OR science AND girls AND high school from Education Research Complete. If the article is full-text, you will see the full-text link to click. If the full-text symbol is missing, you’ll need to do a title search in the E-Journals by Title list and the catalog to see if Kelly Library owns it or has electronic access to it in another database. If not, you can probably get a copy of the article through interlibrary loan.

In addition to the EBSCO databases, Kelly Library subscribes to several others that might be useful for graduate-level research in your classes: ERIC, General OneFile, MLA International Bibliography (indexing only), JSTOR, ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Full Text, PsycInfo (indexing only) / PsycArticles, and World Catalog (indexing only).

Remember: If a periodical is not full-text in one database, check the E-Journals by Title list to determine if it is full-text in another database that Kelly Library subscribes to. If there is no electronic access, do a title search in the online catalog, to see if the library has a paper subscription to that periodical. For example in the results list above, High Ability Studies (June 2014) is not full-text. When you check the E-Journals by Title list, you see that it’s available in several databases, but there is an 18-month embargo. You may then want to consider interlibrary loan to obtain a copy of that article.
Below is an example from JSTOR, a full-text database of scholarly journals that is complete from volume 1, issue 1 for each periodical title included in that database. There is a time lag of two to five years. See the following example, which is a search on classroom management AND kindergarten.
Although JSTOR is complete for each periodical included in this database, the time lag or “moving wall” means that it is great for older (and sometimes foundational) scholarly material, but for current research, you should look at some of the other databases mentioned in this guide.

Dissertations and theses are good sources of scholarly information, but can be hard to obtain. Kelly Library has a subscription to ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Full Text; although it is not completely full-text, there are over 1 million dissertations available in this database. Below is a search for dissertations on STEM and girls.

![ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Full Text search results for STEM AND girls](image)

Note: ERIC, MLA and ProQuest are from the same vendor and have similar user interfaces.

Depending on your topic, PsycInfo and PsycArticles might be good databases to search. Here’s a search on bullying AND elementary school.
World Catalog, an index of books and other monograph-type materials, is a good way to identify materials if the library does not own many materials on your topic. See the example from WC below—a search on bilingual education AND elementary school. This index, just as the other ones we have looked at so far, offers many limiting options.
PEER-REVIEWED V. POPULAR?

If you a refresher on the differences between peer-reviewed / refereed / scholarly journals and popular magazines, take a look at this web site developed by Skidmore College

INTERNET RESOURCES

Some sites you might find useful are the Subject Guides on the library home page, Ipl2, and Google Scholar. The sites listed on the library’s page have been recommended in professional literature; Ipl2 reviews sites before posting them. Of course, apply good judgment and be critical of web sites that are not signed or attributed to an organization, reach undocumented conclusions, or have lots of typographical errors.

REMOTE ACCESS

You can access these databases from home. To find directions on how to do this, go to the library home page and click on Off Campus Connection under the Research heading. Or, ask a reference librarian for directions.

INTERLIBRARY LOAN

Although Kelly Library has many print and online resources, you will probably find citations to materials not owned by Kelly Library. Our staff will try to obtain these items for you through interlibrary loan. The ordering system is electronic; you will have to complete a one-time registration before you can request items. If you need help with this, please speak with a library staff member. Also, please check the catalog (for books and print periodical holdings) and the E-Journals by Title list to make sure Kelly Library does not own the material. Generally, you should allow 5 to 7 working days to receive material requested through interlibrary loan, so plan accordingly. There is no charge for the first fifty requests per academic year; after that, there is a $5 minimum (or whatever the lending library charges Kelly Library).
DOCUMENTATION

Just have you have done in previous research projects, whenever you quote an author’s exact words or use his or her unique ideas, you must credit that source to avoid plagiarism. Academic fields have various documentation systems to credit the authors. Kelly Library has the *MLA Handbook, Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses and Dissertations* (Turabian), *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, APA Style Guide to Electronic References* and *The Chicago Manual of Style* on permanent reserve at the Circulation Desk. Use the documentation style your professor requires. Diana Hacker’s *A Writer’s Reference* (also on permanent reserve) has a good section on the APA style, too. If you click on the Research Tips link under the Research heading, you will see links to the Diana Hacker (http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/) and Purdue University Online Writing Lab, OWL (http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/) sites. You might want to take a look at APA Style.org (http://www.apastyle.org/apa-style-help.aspx) too.

Remember: If you need help using or locating any of the materials mentioned in this handout, please ask a reference librarian or circulation staff member for assistance. If that staff member cannot help you, he or she will direct you to someone who can. The librarians are: Jane Caldwell, Patty Greany, Jody Hanshew, and Janet Kirby. The circulation staff members are: Adam Alley, Jennifer Bassett, David Lyons, Holly McCormick, and Janice Snead. There is a reference librarian on duty until 9pm Sunday-Thursday and all day Friday and Saturday during the regular semesters.

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