TESOL Research: 
Searching in the Research Databases

Your Options to Obtain Research Articles

1. Online full text from a Library Research Database
2. Full text through a journal in the ODU Library Catalog & OhioLINK Library Catalog
3. In the library in a journal in print: In the Periodicals section
4. Online request for full text via Interlibrary Loan (ILLiad)
5. Visit to a nearby OhioLINK-member university library for access to journal in print

Searching on a Research Topic in the Databases

Basic Search Strategy in a Database:
1. Choose search terms (“keywords”) that represent 2-3 of the major elements (concepts) of your topic
2. Use synonyms, related terms
3. Look for terms to use in the articles, article abstracts, and elsewhere in the databases
4. Use AND to connect your terms in order to find articles that have all of your terms;
   Use OR to connect any synonyms when you want to find any of the terms
5. Use * at the end of a root of a word to find all of its variations

Searching multiple EBSCO databases at the same time:
Choose your databases before you start: Click on the “Choose Databases” option that appears after the database name.

When you need to focus on TESOL area of research:
➢ In the databases Education Resource Complete & Education Full Text & ERIC:
Use TESOL-related terminology in first search box, then add keywords for your topic in the 2nd and/or 3rd search boxes: tesol or esl or esol or tsl or “second language”
Searching for Something Specific

Search within a Specific Journal:

Want to just search for articles in a single journal?

Type in journal title in top box & select “SO Publication Name” or “SO Journal Name” from menu, then type words for topic in 2nd box.

Search for a Specific Article:

Identified an article in something you’ve read that you would like to get? (Tip: Look at the bibliographies in books & articles for more great resources!)

Type in article title in top box & select “TI Title” from menu.

Search for Works by an Author:

Have you identified an author who has written a couple of great articles on your topic? Find out if the person has written additional relevant articles!

Type in last name, first name & select “AU Author” from menu.

Citing an article from a database?

For resources to help with citing business sources, visit ODU Library’s Quick Reference at www.ohiodominican.edu/library/quickref & click on APA, MLA, & Other Styles.

Need Help Using this Database?

Ask a Librarian:  614.251.4754 | 888. 681-8044 | refdesk@ohiodominican.edu
http://www.ohiodominican.edu/library/help/ask