Searching A+ Education for Journal Articles

This guide shows how to use A+ Education to perform a basic search for articles on a particular topic.

The example topic will be: *Discuss and review the characteristics of effective teaching. Use journal articles to support your discussion.* We will used the keywords *effective teaching* and *characteristics*.

**Step One:**
From the Library homepage click on **Databases** located under **Library resources**. You will be taken to the alphabetical A-Z Listing of ECU Databases. Locate A+ Education and click on it to be taken to the database.

**Note:** If you are off campus, you will be asked to log in using your ECU login and password at this point.

**Step Two:**
When in A+ Education, select the **Advanced Search** tab.

**Step Three:**
Complete the Advanced Search form, and then click **Search**.
To ensure we retrieve **effective teaching** as a phrase and not individual words, we have placed quotation marks around the phrase.

To search for both **characteristics** and **characteristic** we have included the truncation symbol* to search for both words at once.

You can also limit your search to document type and year range. Here as we are looking for journal articles we have limited our document type to journal (you may choose not to limit your results to journal articles as A+ Education also provides valuable resources in other formats). To retrieve recent results, we have included a 6 year date range.

**Note:** Do not restrict your search to Full Text Only. You may miss a valuable result that you can find in another database.

**Step Four:**
On the results screen you will be shown a number of results. Scroll through your results and read the abstracts to decide if you want to access the full text of the article. For more information on a particular item, click on **COMPLETE RECORD.** The complete record will also provide you with subject headings that may be useful for additional searches.

To access the full text select the **FULL TEXT** link or select **Findit@ECU** to see if ECU has full text access.

If **Findit@ECU** doesn’t retrieve a result, you can complete a **Journal Search** from the Library homepage. Make sure to make note of the information you need for a reference as this will help you locate the article.