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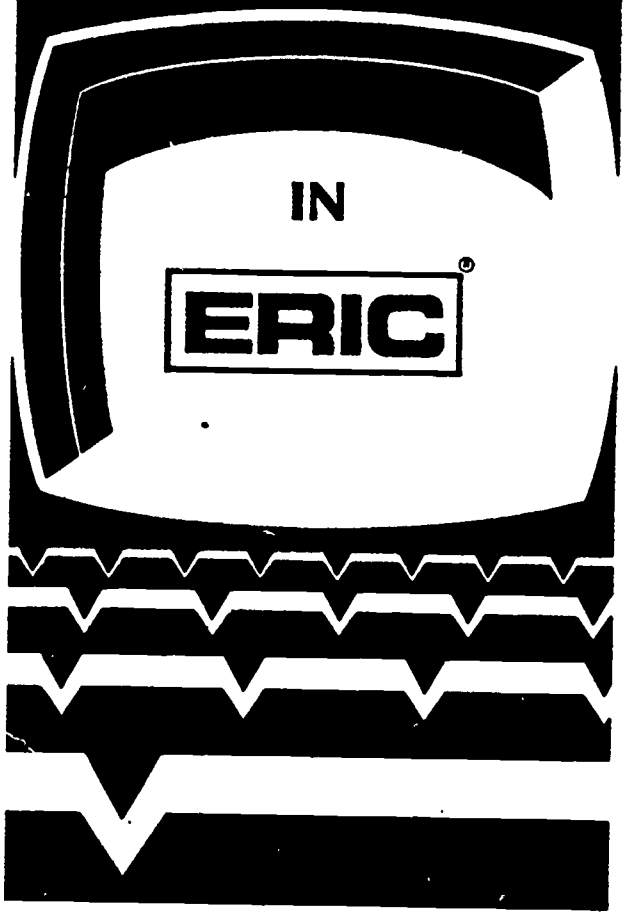
SEARCHABLE FIELDS



A COMPUTER USER'S GUIDE

VIA

BRS DIALOG ORBIT

RC015812

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EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

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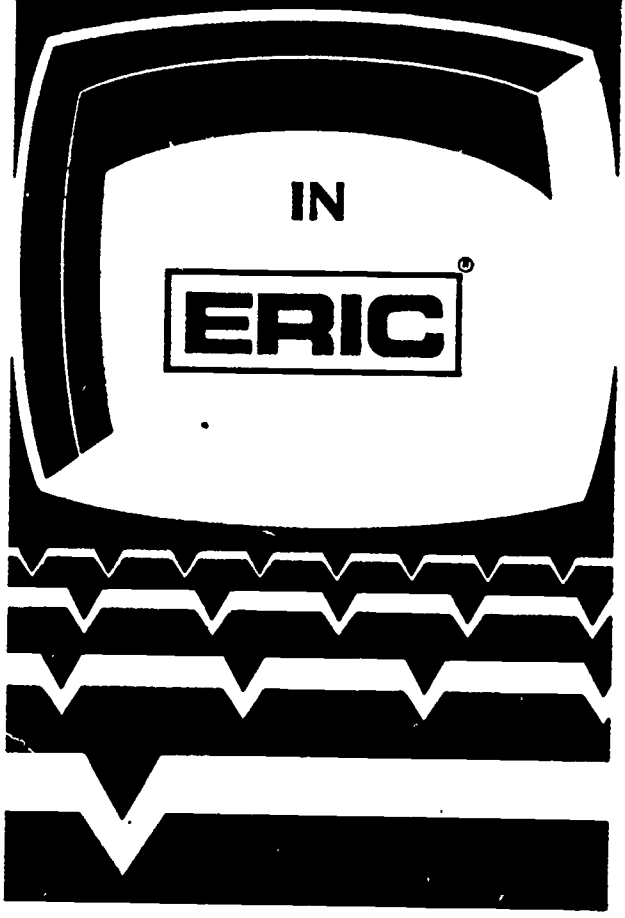

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Clues to ERIC

ERIC is the Educational Resources Information Center, formed in 1966 to offer users access to the world of educational literature. Today the ERIC database is one of the nation's largest bibliographic databases, having indexed over half a million documents in the field of education.

Two subfiles provide online access to the ERIC database: **Resources in Education** (RIE) and **Current Index to Journals in Education** (CIJE). RIE provides bibliographic information and abstracts for a variety of educational documents. RIE documents (identified by "ED" Accession numbers) are available on microfiche at over 700 libraries and educational institutions in the United States. CIJE is an annotated index to articles on education from more than 760 journals. CIJE documents (identified by "EJ" Accession numbers) can be found at any library that carries the referenced journals. RIE and CIJE indexes are available in printed form at over 2,000 libraries and educational service centers throughout the United States and abroad.

This reference guide introduces and explains major searchable fields of the ERIC database and presents field access labels (field access commands) of three online ERIC vendors—BRS, DIALOG, and ORBIT. The guide also lists the codes necessary for searching particular ERIC fields. Some fields are not searchable by certain vendors; in such cases, the space for the field access label is left blank. Explanatory notes and instructions concerning the field access labels appear in italics.

The vendors offer different options for searching ERIC. Contact the vendor of your choice for information about search services. Although many searching options are available, for precision searching you are encouraged to use the controlled vocabulary in the **Thesaurus of ERIC Descriptors.** For further information on search strategies, contact the ERIC Processing and Reference Facility, which will refer you to the appropriate ERIC Clearinghouse. Addresses for the vendors and the ERIC Facility, along with names of the ERIC Clearinghouses, appear later in this guide.

ERIC's Searchable Fields and Vendors' Field Access Labels

SEARCHABLE FIELD	FIELD LABEL		
ERIC	BRS	DIALOG II	ORBIT
1. Descriptor—describes subject fields with terms in ERIC thesaurus			
a. Multiword Descriptor	*-hyphen*	*no label necessary*	*no label necessary*
b. Descriptor Word(s)—word(s) within descriptor	.DE.	/DE	/W
c. Single-Word Descriptor	.MJ,MN.	/DF	/IT
d. Major Subject Descriptor	.MJ.	/MAJ	•
e. Minor Subject Descriptor	.MN.	/MIN	
2. Identifier—describes subject fields with terms not found in ERIC thesaurus			
a. Multiword Identifier	.ID. *(free text)*	*no label necessary*	*no label necessary*
b. Identifier Word(s)—word(s) within identifier	.ID. *(free text)*	/ID	/W
c. Single-Word Identifier		/IF	/IT
d Major Subject Identifier		/MAJ	•
e. Minor Subject Identifier		/MIN	

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SEARCHABLE FIELD	FIELD LABEL		
ERIC	**BRS**	**DIALOG II**	**ORBIT**
3. Title	.TI.	/TI	/TI
4. Abstract/ Annotation—does not yield precision of controlled vocabulary searching, increases online search time, but useful when searching for terms just beginning to appear in documents	.AB.	/AB	/AB
5. Personal Author	.AU.	AU =	/AU
6. ERIC Accession Number—document number as found in RIE or CIJE	.AN.	*Type ED# or EJ#*	/AN
7. Clearinghouse Accession Number—number assigned to document by an ERIC clearinghouse	.CH.	AN =	/CHAN
• Clearinghouse Code—two-letter prefix to Clearinghouse Accession Number; represents an ERIC clearinghouse (See codes listed under **What Subjects Does ERIC Cover?**)	.CH.	CH =	/CC
8. Publication Year—limits search to documents published within a specified period	.YR	PY =	/SO
9. Update	.AN	UD =	/UP
10. Geographic Source of Document (field added 1979)—where document was published	.GS.	CP =	/LO
11. Institution—corporate author	.IN.	CS =	/OS

SEARCHABLE FIELD	FIELD LABEL		
ERIC	**BRS**	**DIALOG II**	**ORBIT**
12. Sponsoring Agency—funding agency	.SN.	SP =	/SPO
13. Journal Citation	.SO.	JN =	/SO
14. File Segment—RIE or CIJE (derived from ERIC Accession Number field)	ED.AN. EJ.AN.	/ED /EJ	RIE/FS CIJE/FS
15. Availability a. ERIC availability (from EDRS) b Alternate availability	 .AV.	AV =	/AV /AV
16. Governmental Status of Document (field added 1979)—federal, state, local	.GV.	GL =	/LO
17. Report Number	.NO.	RN =	/NU
18. Grant, Contract Number	.NO.	CN =	/NU
19. Publication Type—form of publication (See list under **What Materials Does ERIC Contain?**)	.PT.	DT =	/DT
20. Language of Document (field added 1979)—language of text	.LG.	LA =	/LA
21. Target Audience (field added 1984)—intended users—if stated in document	.ID.	TA =	/TG
22. Descriptive Note—extends description of publication, e.g., "Paper presented at Vocational Education Association National Conference"	.NT.		/NO

What Subjects Does ERIC Cover?

Materials in the ERIC database, which address every conceivable issue in the field of education, are covered by one of sixteen clearinghouses, each of which represents a broad educational subject area. The names and identifying codes of the clearinghouses follow (see number 7 under **ERIC's Searchable Fields and Vendors' Field Access Labels**). For clearinghouse addresses and phone numbers, contact:

ERIC Processing and Reference Facility
4833 Rugby Avenue, Suite 301
Bethesda, MD 20814
Telephone: (301) 656-9723

- Adult, Career, and Vocational Education (CE)
- Counseling and Personnel Services (CG)
- Educational Management (EA)
- Elementary and Early Childhood Education (PS)
- Handicapped and Gifted Education (EC)
- Higher Education (HE)
- Information Resources (IR)
- Junior Colleges (JC)
- Languages and Linguistics (FL)
- Reading and Communication Skills (CS)
- Rural Education and Small Schools (RC)
- Science, Mathematics, and Environmental Education (SE)
- Social Studies/Social Science Education (SO)
- Teacher Education (SP)
- Tests, Measurement, and Evaluation (TM)
- Urban Education (UD)

Glossary

BRS—Bibliographic Retrieval Services
CIJE—Current Index to Journals in Education
ED#—ERIC Document Number
EDRS—ERIC Document Reproduction Service
EJ#—ERIC Journal Number
ERIC—Educational Resources Information Center
RIE—Resources in Education

What Materials Does ERIC Contain?

ERIC contains materials that range from worksheets to doctoral dissertations to computer programs. These materials are classified by publication types. (See number 19 under **ERIC's Searchable Fields and Vendors' Field Access Labels.**) The ERIC publication types, along with their corresponding publication codes, follow:

Code	Publication Type
010	BOOKS
	COLLECTED WORKS
020	• General
021	• Conference Proceedings
022	• Serials
030	CREATIVE WORKS (LIterature, Drama, Fine Arts)
	DISSERTATIONS/THESES
040	• Undetermined
041	• Doctoral Dissertations
042	• Master's Theses
043	• Practicum Papers
	GUIDES
050	• General
	• Classroom Use
051	• Instructional Materials (for learner)
052	• Teaching Guides (for teacher)
055	• Nonclassroom Use (for administrative & support staff, and for teachers, parents, clergy, researchers, counselors, and others in nonclassroom situations)
060	HISTORICAL MATERIALS
070	INFORMATION ANALYSES (Literature Reviews, State-of-the-Art Papers)
071	• ERIC Information Analysis Products (IAPs)

Code	Publication Type
080	JOURNAL ARTICLES
090	LEGAL/LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY MATERIALS
100	AUDIOVISUAL/NONPRINT MATERIALS
101	• Computer Programs
110	STATISTICAL DATA (Numerical, Quantitative)
120	VIEWPOINTS (Opinion Papers, Position Papers, Essays, etc.)
	REFERENCE MATERIALS
130	• General
131	• Bibliographies
132	• Directories/Catalogs
133	• Geographic Materials
134	• Vocabularies/Classifications/ Dictionaries/Glossaries
	REPORTS
140	• General
141	• Descriptive
142	• Evaluative/Feasibility
143	• Research/Technical
150	SPEECHES, CONFERENCE PAPERS
160	TESTS, EVALUATION INSTRUMENTS
170	TRANSLATIONS
171	• Multilingual/Bilingual Materials
999	OTHER/MISCELLANEOUS (Not Classifiable Elsewhere)

This publication was prepared with funding from the Office of Educational Research and Improvement, U.S. Department of Education under contract number NIE 400 83-0023. The opinions expressed in this guide do not necessarily reflect the positions or policies of OERI or the Department of Education.

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To Order:

ERIC JOURNAL ARTICLES (when available)
University Microfilms International, Article Clearinghouse
300 North Zeeb Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48106
Telephone: (800) 732-0616

ERIC DOCUMENTS (microfiche or paper copy)
ERIC Document Reproduction Service (EDRS)
3900 Wheeler Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22304-5110
Telephone: (800) 227-3742

THESAURUS OF ERIC DESCRIPTORS
ORYX Press
2214 North Central at Encanto
Phoenix, AZ 85004
Telephone: (800) 457-6799

ERIC SEARCH TOOLS (Title Index, Source Directory, Identifier Authority List, Magnetic Tapes, etc.)
ERIC Processing and Reference Facility
4833 Rugby Avenue, Suite 301
Bethesda, MD 20814
Telephone: (301) 656-9723

Online Vendor Addresses:

BRS Information Technologies
1200 Route 7
Latham, NY 12110
Telephone: (800) 345-4277

DIALOG Information Services
3460 Hillview Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94304
Telephone: (800) 334-2564

ORBIT Search Service
System Development Corporation
2525 Colorado Avenue
Santa Monica, CA 90406
Telephone: (800) 421-7229

Developed by:
ERIC Clearinghouse on Rural Education and Small Schools
Box 3AP
New Mexico State University
Las Cruces, NM 88003
Telephone: (505) 646-2623
Contact: Amelita Hill

March, 1986

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and

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