### Physical Education and Health Database Guide

<table>
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<th>Database</th>
<th>Strengths/Weaknesses of Database</th>
<th>Special Features &amp; Limits Research Articles</th>
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| **SPORTDiscus** with Fulltext Indexing, 1975- | Strengths:  
• Indexes 2000+ journals; 400 are fulltext  
• best overall sports-related index  
Weaknesses:  
• some journal indexing is slow to appear   | • Limit to English language (bottom of screen)  
• May limit to journal articles (publication type)  
• Research studies: choose from these keywords: randomized, trial, “comparative study,” “prospective study”  
• Tip: Do not add “athlete,” etc. to search (in SpDis only) |
| **ERIC** Indexing, 1966-  | Strengths:  
• includes ERIC documents (reports, curriculum, teaching guides/activities, etc.)  
Note: Full text is available for many ERIC documents  
• More years of coverage than other databases  
• Better subject headings/descriptors than other databases   | • Limit to research studies: Under “Refine Search” limit PUBLICATION TYPE to “Reports - Research/Technical”  
• Helpful descriptors: Literature reviews, Bibliographies, Comparative analysis  
• Age levels: e.g., elementary education; primary education  
• Instructional materials (for learner) -- PUBLICATION TYPE: Guides - Classroom use - Instructional materials  
• Teaching guides (for teacher) -- PUBLICATION TYPE: Guides - Classroom use - Teaching guides |
| **Education Research Complete** Indexing, 1990- | Strengths:  
• Education-related journal articles (indexes 1500; 750 are fulltext)  
• Includes some books and conference papers  
Weaknesses:  
• Less years of coverage than other databases  
• Subject headings less helpful   | • No specific limit for research studies. Recommended: Check box to limit to “Scholarly (Peer-reviewed) Journals”  
Try: Add “study” to your search terms  
• For literature reviews, limit DOCUMENT TYPE to “Literature Review” |

### Database Searching Tips for HHP Students

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*Ebscohost Databases*: Any combination of Ebscohost databases can be searched together. Click on blue “Choose Databases” tab, select databases to search and click on “Continue” button.

›One-Stop Searching for Journal Articles:
If the article you want is not available in the database you are using, go to the Library Homepage and click on Periodical Titles. You will be able to tell if the article is available in another database or if the library has a paper copy.

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