ADLT 601 – Education Research Complete Search Examples
These examples and tips are very close to the examples and discussion used in class

Assume you are looking in Education Research Complete for materials on the same topic you searched in ERIC, i.e., research articles addressing experiential learning and adult learning. The Thesaurus in this database is not the same as ERIC’s Thesaurus, so check your terms.

1. USE THE THESAURUS TO CHECK AND DISCOVER SEARCH VOCABULARY
Note: This thesaurus does allow you to use the asterisk (*)
Check adult learning
- Select Thesaurus
- Type adult learn* into the Browsing: Education Thesaurus box, select term contains
- Note the phrase adult students; you might consider adding it to your search. If you do, your first line would look like this: adult learn* OR adult student*
- Explore adult learning for any other possible terms

Check experiential learning
- Type experiential into the Browsing: Education Thesaurus box, select term contains
- Explore experiential learning for any other possible terms

2. CONSTRUCT A SEARCH FOR ARTICLES
[Note: All the EBSCO databases (Business Source Complete, Academic Search Complete) are similar]
Select Advanced Search below the search box at the top of the page. Try the same search strategy you used in ERIC, but add the additional terms:
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1st line – adult learn* OR adult student*
2nd line -- "experiential learning"
Select Scholarly peer reviewed journals to limit the results to articles in scholarly journals
There will be around 620+ results

3. REVISING BASED ON RESULTS
Note that the word study appears in the abstract for some of the results. To limit the results to research studies, enter the following as the 3rd line of the search:

3rd line – study OR research
Use the dropdown menu to change **Select a Field** to Abstract or Author-Supplied Abstract
Leave the peer reviewed box checked
There will be about 325+ results

4. SEARCHING BY AUTHOR NAME
Select More in the blue bar at the top of the screen, and then select Indexes. Use the dropdown menu for **Browse an Index** to select **Author.** Enter the name last name first, e.g., Knowles, Malcolm. Click the box in front of reasonable variations of the name, e.g., knowles, Malcolm; knowles, malcolm s.; and knowles, malcom. Select Add, and then run the search.

5. GENERAL ADVICE - EXAMINING AND EVALUATING ARTICLES
You can readily see the entire article abstract. Click on the title to reveal the entire record for the item.

Note the subject terms and keywords applied to the item. Note significant words used in the abstract. You may want to incorporate words you find into your searching. Note authors.

Look for Cited References and Times Cited links. Cited References will be articles written before the reference; Times Cited will be articles written after the reference.

The default **SORT** for results is Relevance, but you can change that to Date Newest, Date Oldest, Author, or Source [publication name]. Changing the date is especially useful if you are looking for the oldest or newest articles in the database by an author.

**NOTE:** You may want to go back to ERIC and use the 1st line terms above to see if additional results will appear.