Difference between **Keyword** searching and **Controlled Vocabulary** searching

* **Keyword searching** asks the search engine to look for every article that has the keywords in it, so an article may, or may not, be on the subject you are interested in researching.
* **Controlled Vocabulary** searching (using Descriptors or Subjects) asks the search engine to look for every article that is related to the concept represented by the Controlled Vocabulary you are using.

**ERIC**

* [www.spu.edu](http://www.spu.edu)
* Click on **Library** Link.
* Click on **Subject Guides** link.
* Click on **Education** link.
* Select **ERIC** **via EBSCO Host** (if working remotely you will need to authenticate yourself as an SPU patron using your SPU username and password—same as for Banner and Webmail).
* Type some keywords representing ideas, or concepts, into the search boxes.
* Check **Peer Reviewed** in the **Limit Your Results** section of the page, and click green **Search** tab.
* Find a germane article(s), read the abstract, and examine the **Descriptors** section of the record for appropriate Subject Terms.
* Once you have a good number of **Descriptors**,you can use some combination of these to perform a more focused search. Make sure you select the **SU Descriptors** field.
* Make sure the **Peer Reviewed** box is checked.
* Examine list of articles and read abstracts of germane articles.
* Further limit search by;
  + Click on the small **Show more** link in the **Refine your results**  link on the left side of page in the  **Limit Your Results** section and select:
  + **Publication type of** 
    - **Numerical/quantitative** and **Report-Research**
    - HINT: holding down the **CTRL** key which selecting options from a list allows you to pick multiple options in the list.
* Click **Search.**

**Education Full Text**

* [www.spu.edu](http://www.spu.edu)
* Click on **Library** Link.
* Click on **Subject Guides** link.
* Click on **Education** link.
* Select **Education Full Text** (if working remotely you will need to authenticate yourself as an SPU patron using your SPU username and password—same as for Banner and Webmail).
* Type some keywords representing ideas, or concepts, into the search boxes.
* Check **Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals** in the **Limit Your Results** section of the page, and click green **Search** tab.
* Find a germane article(s), read the abstract, and examine the **Subjects** section of the record for appropriate Subject Terms.
* Once you have a good number of **Subjects**,you can use some combination of these to perform a more focused search. Make sure you select the **SU Descriptors** field.
* Make sure the **Peer Reviewed** box is checked.
* Examine list of articles and read abstracts of germane articles.
* Further limit search by;
  + Click on the small **Show more** link in the **Refine your results**  link on the left side of page in the  **Limit Your Results** section and select:
  + **Publication type of** 
    - **Numerical/quantitative** and **Report-Research**
    - HINT: holding down the **CTRL** key which selecting options from a list allows you to pick multiple options in the list.
* Click **Search.**