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 of your keywords from the **Building Effective Keywords** exercise into the search box. Start general. Don’t use all of your keywords at one time.
* Check **Peer Reviewed** in the **Limit Your Results** section of the page, and click **Search** tab
* Find a germane article and read the abstract and examine the **Descriptors** section of the record for appropriate controlled vocabulary
* List the appropriate **Descriptor(s)** in the boxes on the **Using Descriptors and Subject Headings** sheet
* 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**

**PsycINFO**

* [www.spu.edu](http://www.spu.edu)
* Click on **Library** Link
* Click on **Subject Guides** link
* Click on **Education** link
* Click on **PsycINFO** link
* In the **Limit your results** section, find the **Classification Codes** box and select (hold down CTRL key to select multiple items) **3500, 3530, 3550, 3650, 3570, 3575, 3580**



* Check **Peer Reviewed** in the **Limit Your Results** section of the page.
* Type some of your keywords in to the search box. Start general. Don’t use all of your keywords at one time.
* Find a germane article and read the abstract and examine the **Subjects** section of the record for appropriate controlled vocabulary
* List the appropriate **Subjects** in the boxes on the **Using Descriptors and Subject Headings** sheet
* Once you have a good number of **Subjects** you can use some combination of these to perform a more focused search
* Make sure the **Peer Reviewed** box is checked
* Add other germane keywords from your **Using Descriptors and Subject Headings** exercise and click **Search**
* Examine list of 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**
		- **Empirical study** (includes Experimental Replication, Follow-up Study and Longitudinal Study) **Mathematical model** (includes Meta Analysis, Nonclinical Case Study, Qualitative Study, and Quantitative Study)or **Literature review**
		- 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**
* Type search terms in first search box
* Check **Peer Reviewed** box
* Click **Start**
* Find a pearl of an article and examine the **Subject(s)**
* Click on a germane **Subject(s)** term
* Within the **Narrow These Results** section on the left, click on **By Subject** and click on another germane **Subject(s)**
* Click on the **Peer Reviewed** tab
* Examine list of articles
* To find Quantitative articles, type **quantitative** into the **Find:** box on the right, leaving the “Search Within Results” box selected