

## Worksheet for BA (Hons) Early Childhood Studies. Module 5425 Early Childhood Education and Educare

### 1 Accessing Journals Using the Learning Centre Catalogue.

Using the catalogue will provide you with details of all books and media items available at any of the three SHU Learning Centre's. It will also tell you what journals titles we stock and sometimes it will provide you with a direct link to the full text version of a journal.


Instructions:

- Login to the student portal (<http://my.shu.ac.uk>). From the top right hand corner of the screen, click on the option to go to the library catalogue.

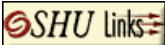


Link to catalogue

1. From the main catalogue screen, select the option **Serial Search** so you are looking for journals only (the screen will turn green).

- Do a keyword search for **international and early years**. How many items are listed?
- Look at the electronic serial: **International Journal of Early Years Education**.
- Click on the SHU Links button 
- SHU Links will open a new window listing services offering full text access. For each service there will be a statement showing which years, volumes and issues are available
- Select a service by clicking on the service name and browse the back issues to find interesting articles.
- Try saving an article to your home space.

## Using Information Databases


Information Databases provide a fast electronic **index** to journal articles and other publications. They will help you to access a range of articles available on any given topic across a range of journal titles. In many cases you can access the full text of an article directly or through .

### 2a Using LitSearch to access a database

- Go to the Catalogue home page
- select LitSearch ( from the option at the top right hand of the screen)
- Login to LitSearch using your normal username and password
- Go to the Find a Database option, and click on Subject. (This option is normally already selected.)
- Select the subject **Education and TESOL** in the left hand box. When you click on this, the same option will appear in the right hand box. Now click on GO
- This will bring up a list of databases relevant to education.
- Click on any database title to open the database in a new window.

### 2b Search British Education Index

This example will show you how create a search strategy to find information about the development of children from disadvantaged backgrounds in early childhood

- Click on the option for **British Education Index (via Datastar)**
- Click on the  button next to British Education Index
- Click in the radar box next to **Thesaurus mapping** to put a tick into the box. This will active the Thesaurus option
- Do a keyword search for **early child development** and click on the search option. From your list of headings select the following and then click search
  - ✓ Preschool children
  - ✓ Preschool education
  - ✓ Child development
  - ✓ Early childhood education
  - ✓ Infant behaviour
- Before looking at the results we need to focus our search on the effects of poverty.
- Make sure the tick is still in the box next to **Thesaurus mapping** and search for the keyword **Poverty**. From the list select the following and click on search
  - ✓ Poverty
  - ✓ Disadvantaged
  - ✓ Disadvantaged environment
  - ✓ Economically disadvantaged
  - ✓ Child welfare. Click on search.
- We now have two sets of results which we can combine.
- Clear the thesaurus mapping option and in the search box enter the number of the sets you wish to combine, e.g. **2 and 4**.
- Select one of these results, and using the **SHU Links** button find out if we have the full text of this article available.
- Give the correct Harvard reference for this article

Try a search on a topic of your own choice.

### 3. Proquest Education Journals

Follow the instructions above to open up the **Proquest Education Journals** database

- Click on the Advanced search tab at the top of the screen
- Do a keyword search for Preschool and working mothers
- Select one of the full text articles and have a look at this
- Give the correct Harvard reference for this article

Now do a keyword search on a topic you are currently researching

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### 4. Intute

- Go to the Find a Database screen in LitSearch, and select the Title option
  - Click on the letter I - this will bring up a list of all the databases beginning with I. Click on the heading for Intute. (Alternatively you could go straight to the website <http://www.intute.ac.uk/>)
  - We want to find information on working mothers and the effect on their children. Enter the keywords 'working mothers'
  - Have a look at the web site **The Effects of a Mother's Return to Work Decision on Child Development in the UK**
  - Give the correct Harvard reference for this web site
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### 5. Department for Work and Pensions and the Department for Education and Skills

- Go to the Department for Work and Pensions website <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/>
  - In the search box, enter the search term 'working mothers'
  - Have a look at one of these sites
  - Give the correct Harvard reference for this web site
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- Go to the Department of Education and Skills website at <http://www.dfes.gov.uk/>
  - Repeat the above search
  - Do you find any different websites?
  - Give the correct Harvard reference for one of these sites