

Special Education Subject Guide

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Special education comprises “programs and services for students who deviate physically, mentally, or emotionally from the norm to an extent that they require unique learning experiences, techniques or materials in order to be maintained in the general education classroom” (*Dictionary of Special Education*, p. 150). This definition can be applied to both disabled and gifted students, although most special education research focuses on students with physical, mental, or emotional disabilities.

The special education movement began to spread with the social reforms of the 19th century, including the expansion of compulsory free public education. However, most modern research in the field dates from the late 20th century, thanks to increased parental activism and the passage of several key laws mandating equitable funding and access to public education (see Public Laws 94-142 and 101-476). Prominent scholars in the field of multicultural education include James E. Ysseldyke, James M. Kauffman, Daniel P. Hallahan, Alan S. Kaufman, and Nadeen L. Kaufman.

Introductory Resources

- ***Subject Introduction***

“Questions Often Asked by Parents About Special Education Services”
National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities, 1999
<http://www.nichcy.org/pubs/ideapubs/lq1txt.htm>

- ***Reference Books***

Dictionary of Special Education and Rehabilitation, 4th ed.
Glenn A. Vergason and M.L. Anderegg, eds.
Denver: Love Publishing, 1997
[LC3957 .V47 1997](#)

Encyclopedia of Special Education: A Reference for the Education of the Handicapped and Other Exceptional Children and Adults
Cecil R. Reynolds and Elaine Fletcher-Janzen, eds.
New York: J. Wiley & Sons, 2000
[LC4007 .E53 2000](#), vs.1-3

Handbook of Special and Remedial Education: Research and Practice
Margaret C. Wang, Maynard C. Reynolds, and Herbert J. Walberg, eds.
Oxford: Pergamon, 1995
[LC3965 .H263 1995](#)

Handbook of Special Education
James M. Kauffman and Daniel P. Hallahan, eds.
Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, 1981
[LC3965 .H26 1981](#)

Special Education Dictionary
Horsham, PA: LRP Publications, 1997
[LC3957 .S64 1997](#)

Find Books & Media

Resources in the APU University Libraries can be found by using the [APOLIS2](#) online catalog.

- **Subject Headings & Call Number Ranges**

Special Education	LC 3950-4806.5
Special Education, United States	
Special Education History	
Learning Disabilities	
Learning Disabled Children	
Learning Disabled Children – Education	
Inclusive Education	LC 1200-1203
Inclusive Education, United States	

- **Books**

Critical Issues in Special Education
James E. Ysseldyke
Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2000
[LC3981 .Y87 2000](#)

New Directions in Special Education: Eliminating Ableism in Policy and Practice
Thomas Hehir
Cambridge, MA: Harvard Education, 2005
[LC4031 .H44 2005](#)

Special Education for a New Century
Lauren I. Katzman, Allison Gruner Gandhi, Wendy S. Harbour, and J.D. LaRock, eds.
Cambridge, MA: Harvard Educational Review, 2005
[LC3981 .S64 2005](#)

Special Teaching for Special Children? Pedagogies for Inclusion
Ann Lewis and Brahm Norwich, eds.
New York: Open University Press, 2005
[LC4704 .S64 2005](#)

Who Benefits From Special Education? Remediating (Fixing) Other People's Children
Ellen A. Brantlinger, ed.
Mahwah, NJ: L. Erlbaum Associates, 2006
[LC4031 .W53 2006](#)

- **Media by Subject**

[Special Education](#)
[Learning Disabled Children](#)
[Learning Disabilities](#)

- **Subject Bibliographies**

Education: A Guide to Reference and Information Sources, 2nd ed.
Nancy Patricia O'Brien
Englewood, Colo.: Libraries Unlimited, 2000
[Z5811 .B89 2000](#)

The Special Needs Reading List: An Annotated Guide to the Best Publications for Parents and Professionals
Wilma K. Sweeney
Bethesda, MD: Woodbine, 1998
[Z5814.C52 S84 1998](#)

- **Resources in Non-APU Libraries**

[LINK+](#) LINK+ is a single catalog for 40+ California libraries that have a cooperative borrowing and lending arrangement for books only. This service is for APU faculty, staff and students, and is free. Items usually come within 2-3 work days.

[WorldCat](#) WorldCat is a single catalog for hundreds of North American and international libraries. Books and other library resources may be requested from this catalog through the [interlibrary loan](#) service. This service is for APU faculty, staff and students, and costs \$2.00 per item requested. Items usually come within 7-10 work days.

Find Journal Articles

Resources in the APU University Libraries can be found by using the [APOLIS2](#) online catalog.

- **Journals**

Title	Available Formats
Exceptional Children	Print Online
International Journal of Disability, Development, and Education	Online
Journal of Developmental Education	Online
Journal of Learning Disabilities	Print Online
Journal of Special Education	Online
Remedial and Special Education	Online
Teacher Education and Special Education	Online

- **Print Indexes**

Education Index

New York: The H. W. Wilson Company

[Z5813 .E23](#) (vs. 1-55, 77)

- **Databases**

[Academic Search Elite](#)

[Education Full Text \(WilsonWeb\)](#)

[ERIC \(EBSCOhost\)](#)

[PsycInfo](#)

[SocINDEX with Full Text](#)

- **Getting Journal Articles**

[Periodical Finder](#)

Sometimes while using a database, article records are found without any corresponding full-text article. Use Periodical Finder to see whether or not the article can be found in full-text in a different database. It can also be used to look up the full-text availability of items found in bibliographies.

[Articles not at APU](#)

If a journal article is unavailable in either the print journal collection or one of the online databases, it can be requested through the [interlibrary loan](#) service.

Find Internet Resources

- **Professional Organizations and/or Government Agency Websites**

[California Department of Education: Special Education Programs](#)

[Council for Exceptional Children](#)

[National Association of Special Education Teachers](#)

[National Education Association: Special Education-IDEA](#)

[U.S. Department of Education: Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Programs](#)

- **Other Websites**

[Internet Public Library: Special Education Resources](#)

Created by librarians, the Internet Public Library's Special Education page is a small collection of high-quality sites for special education students, parents, teachers, and administrators. The site also links to several accessibility-enabled sites for readers with hearing and vision impairments.

[National Clearinghouse for Professions in Special Education](#)

The NCPSE web site contains information about educational programs and careers in special education, as well as a searchable "research library" of journal articles and government reports related to special education.

- **Free Online Journals**

[International Journal of Special Education](#)

[Journal of Special Education Technology](#)

- **Blogs/RSS Feeds**

You can subscribe to each of the feeds listed above individually, or save the following file to your computer, then import it into your feed reader for an instant subscription to all 6 blogs/feeds: <http://hosting.opml.org/kwilcox/specialed.opml>

Don't have a feed reader? Try Google Reader (<https://www.google.com/reader/>) or Bloglines (<http://www.bloglines.com/>).

Special Education Law Blog

Page: <http://specialedlaw.blogs.com/home/>

Feed: <http://specialedlaw.blogs.com/home/rss.xml>

NEA Special Education News

Page: <http://www.nea.org/specialed/index.html>

Feed: <http://www.nea.org/specialed/feeds/rss.xml>

Special education articles from the ERIC database

Feed:

<http://rss.epnet.com/AlertSyndicationService/Syndication.aspx/GetFeed?guid=706946>

SpedPro

Page: <http://johnl.edschool.virginia.edu/blogs/spedpro/>

Feed: <http://johnl.edschool.virginia.edu/blogs/spedpro/feed/>

SpeEdChange

Page: <http://speedchange.blogspot.com/>

Feed: <http://speedchange.blogspot.com/atom.xml>