EDRE671 Assignment to be completed before your individual meeting with Jennifer Ward

1. Following our class discussion on searching ERIC, start your own searches! Please access the EBSCO version of ERIC from the Egan Library “Recommended Databases for Education” page:

http://www.uas.alaska.edu/library/find-articles/subjects/education.html

2. Start brainstorming some search terms for a topic you would like to explore in your critical essay on language and culture in Alaska. Use the ERIC Thesaurus and subject terms found in your searches to brainstorm your search terms.

3. Do some preliminary searches in ERIC and some of the other education databases (information following, on this worksheet).

Please note: the databases you will be searching are national databases – they are not repositories of information specifically on Alaska or Alaska Natives, but they do contain peer-reviewed (i.e., juried) journals that cover topics on Alaskans, languages, culture and education. You should cite 5-6 scholarly sources for this essay.

*Be deliberate and systematic in each of your database searches.* Keep notes on the terms you are using in your searches. You will come across your ultimate search terms and the best articles for your topic by going through the research process. *You will each get a chance to consult with Jennifer on your search strategies so that you can be successful and find what you need to do your research for this paper.*

Some thesaurus terms (ideas) for your ERIC searches on reading, language, and culture issues:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>“Socioeconomic status”</th>
<th>“Cultural Context”</th>
<th>“Culturally Relevant Education”</th>
<th>“Multicultural Education”</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Variation</td>
<td>Language Usage</td>
<td>Language Attitudes</td>
<td>Language Acquisition</td>
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<tr>
<td>English (Second Language)</td>
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When you search ERIC with the above terms if there is more than one word, use quotation marks to keep the search terms as a phrase: “emergent literacy”

4. Questions to ask yourself as you go through the research process:

   a). Are you interested in reading these articles and do they directly relate to your topic?

   b). Are you able to locate the FULL TEXT of the piece (the full article, to read?) If not, how can you request it through your ILLiad account?

   c). Are your findings from a reputable source?
   ▪ Does your article have a METHODS and RESULTS section? This indicates that your article is an EMPirical STUDY (original research).
   ▪ Does your article review existing research studies? This indicates your article is a REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE.
   ▪ Does your article simply describe some classroom practices? This indicates your article is a DESCRIPTIVE ARTICLE.

   It is important for the integrity of your critical essays that you cite from credible sources. Websites may or may not be considered credible sources depending on who published the site and what kind of review process is used to evaluate the site’s content. For the purposes of this assignment try to limit your searches to “scholarly,” “peer-reviewed,” “juried,” or “academic” journal articles only.

   d). Do the articles you have found cite other research studies or articles you may want to track down? Searching Google Scholar (http://scholar.google.com) is a good way to track down known articles.
Other education databases to search:

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<tr>
<th>Professional Development Collection (EBSCOhost)</th>
<th>Education Full Text (Wilson – EBSCOhost)</th>
<th>Academic Search Premier (EBSCOhost)</th>
<th>ProQuest Education Journals (ProQuest)</th>
<th>ScienceDirect</th>
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Jennifer Ward, Egan Library