The 13 articles on online searching in secondary schools that are annotated in this bibliography were published between 1981 and 1985 and cited in Current Index to Journals in Education (CIJE) and Resources in Education (RIE). The documents and articles cover a variety of issues and perspectives including: an introduction to online bibliographic searching for high school students; teaching online searching to high school students; the use of online bibliographic retrieval systems in Montgomery County (Maryland) public schools; a review of research on the direct use of online bibliographic information systems by untrained end users; integrating online instruction into the high school library curriculum; considerations in offering bibliographic database access to students; rationale, process, and implications of training students to search online; and innovative approaches to teaching online bibliographic searching and student use of information. (THC)
Most citations in this bibliography were selected from the Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC) indexes Current Index to Journals in Education (CIJE) and Resources in Education (RIE).


Describes how high school students were introduced to online bibliographic searching, taught to formulate search strategies, and observed their execution. Course objectives, methods employed, student achievement level, test results on course completion and observations are also included.

Craver, Kathleen W. (1984, June). Teaching online bibliographic searching to high school students. Paper presented at the YASD/ALSC Research Forum at the annual conference of the American Library Association, Dallas, TX. (EDRS No. ED 244 633)

Paper describes the online experiences of four classes of high school students over a two-year period. Primary purpose was to acquaint students with the service and enable them to perform research more expeditiously.


Overview of the concepts of online searching and methods for integrating online instruction into the library skills program are discussed.


Describes the use of online bibliographic retrieval systems with secondary school students in the Montgomery County (Maryland) public schools.

Eisenberg, Michael. (1983). The direct use of online bibliographic information systems by untrained end users: A review of research. Syracuse, NY: ERIC Clearinghouse on Information Resources. (Available from Information Resources Publications, 030 Huntington Hall, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY 13210 as IR-64 for $3.00 plus $1.50 for postage and handling; ED 238 440)

In addition to the research review, which covers problems and solutions, areas covered are education of users, system modifications, and future directions. An extensive bibliography is included.

Fiebert, Elyse Evans. (1984). The integration of online bibliographic instruction into the high school library curriculum. Learning and Media, Winter, 4-8.

Reports on the introduction of online searching in ninth grade library unit.

Goals, objectives, and practical considerations in offering online to younger students. Decision making tools are included.


Focuses on training of students in online bibliographic skills as introduced in school library media centers. The online process, search steps, pros and cons and implications for media programs are highlighted.


Provides suggestions for using online database systems in the classroom, with COMPUserve highlighted.


Describes junior high school students' use of The Source in computer literacy, math and gifted classes.

Pruitt, Ellen, and Dowling, Karen. (1985). Searching for current information online... How high school library media centers in Montgomery County, Maryland are solving an information problem by using DIALOG. Online, 9(2), 47-60. (UMI: EJ 315 625)

Describes introduction of online retrieval to high school seniors in a public school system. Background, database use, curriculum needs, print sources, search strategies and implications are included.


Describes the ongoing debate on whether students should be taught how to find information for themselves, especially in light of the cost of online information.


Provides description of use of libraries and library resources by ninth-grade students trained in online bibliographic searching and conventional modes of accessing literature. Information is included on student use of types of resources, magazines, libraries, online searching, and student acceptance of direction from library media specialists. Six references are listed.

Compiled by Pamela McLaughlin

All citations with EJ numbers are journal articles from CIJE and can be obtained from a library, borrowed through interlibrary loan, or ordered through UMI, 300 N. Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48106 ($10.00 per article), if so indicated. Those with ED numbers are from RIE and can be read at an ERIC microfiche collection or ordered in microfiche or paper copy from EDRS, 3900 Wheeler Ave., Alexandria, VA 22304. Call toll free: 800-227-3742 for exact prices of ERIC documents.