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# IBZ-Online: Internationale Bibliographie der Geistes-und Sozialwissenschaftlichen Zeitschriftenliteratur (Review)

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# □ DATABASE & DISC REVIEWS □

EDITOR: CHERYL LaGUARDIA

**ELECTRONICALLY SPEAKING...**chemists will delight in reading Michael Blake's incisive reviews of two CambridgeSoft products, and scholars will be cheered by Elizabeth McKeigue's review of **IBZ**, which is alive, well, and finally online. And Chris Oka's look at a web-based course may foretell the future for adult-based learning in the private sector.

## WEB FOOD HANDLERS' SAFETY COURSE

Health Media Lab (800-843-1068; info@healthmedialab.com).

www.healthmedialab.com

Date reviewed: 3/7/04

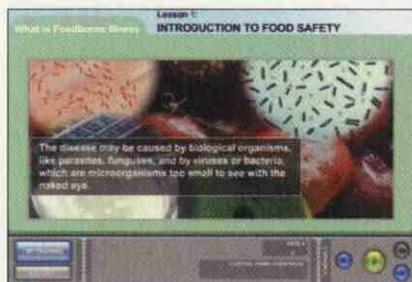
Price: Negotiated by site.

Founded in 1994, Health Media Lab develops interactive health education courses for people of all ages. Its research and development is supported by private funds and grants from the National Institutes of Health, including the National Cancer Institute; National Heart, Lung & Blood Institute; National Institute of Child Health & Human Development; and National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. **Food Handlers' Safety Course (FHSC)**, based on the FDA Food Code, is an interactive web course administered by Health Media Lab's online training partner, 360Training. This is the first comprehensive online course designed to teach employees and new hires the basics of food safety and sanitation, including personal hygiene, time/temperature control, food-borne illness, proper food preparation, and storage. If there was any doubt as to the importance of this type of training, users need only read the introduction: "every year in the United States, an estimated 76 million people...get sick because they or someone else allowed their food to become contaminated...."

The advantage to **FHSC** is the online format: it's available 24 hours a day and requires no special hardware or software to run the graphics and integrated audio except for the free software Micromedia Flash. Screen displays are simple and intuitive, with buttons similar to those on a recorder-player and accompanied by a control panel assistance box.

The first thing a student sees on-screen are the introduction and the course objectives: "To gain an understanding of the term 'Food-borne illness,' to learn what causes food-borne illnesses, and to learn how food-borne illness can be prevented through proper handling practices."

Cheryl LaGuardia is the Head of Instructional Services for the Harvard College Library, author of *Becoming a Library Teacher* (Neal-Schuman, 2000), and winner of the 1996 Louis Shores-Oryx Press Award for Excellence in Reviewing



Next, key terms, such as bacteria, cleaning, cross-contamination, danger zone, and food-borne illness, are introduced. Visual learners will be able to read the text onscreen, and aural learners will appreciate the integrated audio reading. While some of information can be daunting, the creators have tried to make important points easy to remember. For example, the six conditions that help bacterial growth have a mnemonic: Fat Tom (food, acidity, time, temperature, oxygen, and moisture).

By clicking on Play users can work through the course. On screen left there is a link, "My Training," with personal account information including an Outline of the Course and a glossary of key terms. The List of Courses tab details how many of the components of the course have been Passed, are In Progress, or Not Yet Started. The only criticism is the amount of time it took each component to load. Computers equipped with high-speed Internet access shouldn't find this an issue.

**The Bottom Line: Food Handlers' Safety Course** is a well-organized, nicely self-paced online course. Recommended for public, academic, and special libraries serving populations that need this instruction.—Christine Oka, *Research & Instruction Svcs., Northeastern Univ. Libs., Boston*

## WEB IBZ-ONLINE: INTERNATIONALE BIBLIOGRAPHIE DER GEISTES-UND SOZIALWISSENSCHAFTLICHEN ZEITSCHRIFTENLITERATUR

K.G. Saur Verlag [host: Gemeinsamer Bibliotheksverbund] (+49 (0)89 769 02-0; saur.info@thomson.com).

www.saur.de

Date reviewed: 3/6/04

Price: Negotiated by site.

That extensive German title may be intimidating, but **IBZ-Online** (or for non-

Germanophiles, **International Bibliography of Periodical Literature in the Humanities and Social Sciences-Online**) is an index for scholarly research that no self-respecting European or American research library has been without for over a hundred years. Founded by Felix Dietrich in 1899, **IBZ** is also known as "The Dietrich" in Europe. Publications from 40 countries in more than 40 languages are covered. **IBZ-Online** provides access to citations for over two million journal articles, with some 120,000 entries from 6000 periodicals added each year.

Contrary to its name, **IBZ** is not focused solely on the Humanities and Social Sciences, nor does it cover solely German periodical titles. In fact, coverage touches on many scientific fields, such as biology, agriculture, ecology, medicine, mathematics, statistics, earth sciences, and technology. In addition, 51 percent of the periodicals indexed are published in English (37 percent are in German and the remaining in other languages).

Searchable in either English or German, the online database provides an easy Quick search interface as well as an Advanced search mode. Librarians will appreciate the latter, which emulates most library catalog environments. However, one problem: the change to English language does not persist to each subsequent link. Each time you search again, the language reverts back to German. It quickly becomes tedious to click continually the little Union Jack at the top of the screen. It's hoped this can be changed in subsequent releases.

As with most library catalogs, the first search screen offers a "browse by" function. Something to look out for: the search engine is unforgiving with punctuation and diacritics. If you browse by author "Guthke Karl," the resulting list does not display the name. You must search for "Guthke, Karl" (note the addition of a comma) to display this prominent scholar's name. The Advanced search mode is where most users will want to start. It's possible to build specific Boolean searches by searching specific fields in the records (everything from all to ISSN to publisher). Another great feature is the ability to limit a search by publication date and/or language of publication.

**The Bottom Line: IBZ** offers much more coverage of European research than either EBSCO's Academic Search Premier or Taylor & Francis's Arts and Humanities. It covers a world of scholarship that

### LEGEND

WEB Web-based Database CD-ROM CD-ROM

