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HISTORY 205
Historical Methods

FINDING BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The titles listed below (in call number order) contain background and overview information on historical themes and subjects, historical methods and historiography, and cover a wide range of time periods, geographical areas and subjects. Almost of them have bibliographies, or suggestions for further reading. So, looking at these books is useful for two reasons: they will give you a good overview of a topic, and serve as a shortcut to other titles on your subject. All of the print items are listed in call number order and located in the reference collection and the online database titles can be accessed on the library’s web page or the Journal Articles and Databases list (http://www.ehc.edu/academics/resources/kelly-library/journal-articles-databases). There are many links built into this guide; if you are viewing it from the Guides link on the library web page or Dr. Wells’s Moodle site, you can access the online sources through it.

Subject Areas and Time Periods


Great Events from History

- *The Middle Ages, 477-1453* REF/D/119/.G74/2005
- *The Renaissance, 1458-1600* REF/D/228/.G73

*Twentieth Century Britain: An Encyclopedia*, 1995. REF/DA/566/.T835


*Colonial America: An Encyclopedia of Social, Political, Cultural and Economic History*, 2006. REF/E/162/.C68

*The Salem Decades Series* REF/E/169.12/.S25 (available online under Salem History)

*The Twenties / Thirties / Forties / Fifties Sixties / Seventies / Eighties / Nineties / 2000s in America*

Volume 3 is devoted to the theme of history in the south.


Credo Reference. Journal Articles and Databases
Gale Virtual Reference Library. Journal Articles and Databases
Oxford Reference Online. Journal Articles and Databases

Historiography and Historical Methods

Vol. 6 contains an article on the writing of history and religion.
Vol. 3 has a long article on “Historiography.”
Vol. 3 has a section on “Methods and Concepts.”
Long article on American historiography.
Long articles on “Historiography” and “History.”
Has articles on the German and English Schools of History. Earlier editions 1894 and 1987
Vol. 1 has a section on “Methods and Contexts.”
Credo Reference. Journal Articles and Databases
Gale Virtual Reference Library. Journal Articles and Databases
Oxford Reference Online. Journal Articles and Databases

FINDING STATISTICS AND PRIMARY SOURCE MATERIAL

Excerpts from 186 documents relating to African American history 1567-1971.
Statistical Record of Black America, 1990. REF/E/185.5/.S7
Statistical Abstract of the U.S., annual. REF/HA/202/.S8. Also online at the U.S. Census Bureau site.
Previous volumes date back to 1920 and are at Gov Docs C 3.134:year.
U.S. Historical Census Data Browser http://mapserver.lib.virginia.edu/
American Civil War: Letters and Diaries, Journal Articles and Databases
Early American Imprints, Journal Articles and Databases
Early Encounters in North America, Journal Articles and Databases
North American Women’s Letters and Diaries, Journal Articles and Databases
Subject Resources: History (click on Kelly Library Subject Resources link)

The following list contains long runs of newspapers and periodicals that may be primary source material, depending on your topic.

Atlantic Monthly, 1857--. Bound periodicals
Brownlow’s Knoxville Whig, 1853-1868. Microfilm cabinets
Congressional Globe / Congressional Record. Gov Docs Dept., History Dept, and http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/amlaw/lawhome.html
Early American Newspapers, Journal Articles and Databases
Harper’s Magazine, 1850--. Bound periodicals
Harpweek (Harper’s Weekly), 1857-1877. Journal Articles and Databases
Nation, 1882-1885; 1908-36; 1967--. Bound periodicals, microfiche cabinets and online (Academic Search Complete)
New Orleans Christian Advocate, 1828-1879. Microfilm cabinets
New Republic, 1925--. Bound periodicals and online (Academic Search Complete)
New York Times, 1856--. Microfilm cabinets and online (Lexis-Nexis Academic)
Newsweek, 1934--. Bound periodicals, microfiche cabinets and online (Academic Search Complete)
Richmond Argus, 1799-1816. Microfilm cabinets
Richmond Enquirer, 1861-62. Microfilm cabinets
Richmond Gazette, 1784-1796. Microfilm cabinets
Richmond Sentinel, 1863-64. Microfilm cabinets
Richmond Whig, 1835-74. Microfilm cabinets
Southwest Virginia Newspapers, various titles and dates. Microfilm cabinets
Time, 1926--. Bound periodicals, microfiche cabinets and online (Academic Search Complete)
U.S. News and World Report, 1940--. Bound periodicals, microfiche cabinets and online (Academic Search Complete)

Depending on your topic, the following additional web sites may be useful for primary or statistical information:
Library of Congress American Memory Project (http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html); Documenting the American South (http://docsouth.unc.edu/); Discovering American Women’s History Online (http://digital.mtsu.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/women); and Civil War Women: Primary Sources (http://library.duke.edu/specialcollections/bingham/guides/cwdocs.html)

BIBLIOGRAPHIES

Besides the bibliographies included in reference works, circulating books and periodical articles, the following book-length, stand-alone bibliographies may help you too.

Black Slavery in the Americas, 1982. REF/HT/1049/.S63

FINDING BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

You may need to find biographical information on an historical figure or historian. The following print and electronic titles should help you. All of the print titles are in the reference collection and the online titles can be accessed by clicking on Journal Articles and Databases.
E-books, such as those from the **EBSCO eBook Collection** (formerly NetLibrary) and **ACLS Humanities collection**, are included in the catalog (although you may also access them from **Journal Articles and Databases**).

**FINDING MATERIAL IN ONLINE AND PRINT INDEXES**

In addition to background and biographical information, you will need critical information such as book reviews. The sources below will help you find reviews in periodicals, as well as biographical information and articles on specific history topics. They are all accessible from the **Journal Articles and Databases** link.

**America: History & Life**, 1965--. Online

Has a companion database, **Historical Abstracts**, HA indexes world history; A: H&L, U.S. and Canadian. These two databases are not full-text; they index and abstract articles.

The screen shot below left shows the basic search screen; the screen shot on the right shows the results—matches for the search **Salem AND witchcraft AND historiography**.
Here’s the third article from that list, “Salem Possesses in Retrospect” in *William & Mary Quarterly*, no. 3, 2008:

Note: the vendor that produces *America: History & Life*, produces many other databases, including *Academic Search Complete* and *Humanities International Complete*, that may be useful too. ASC and HIC are partially full-text; ASC contains popular magazines and scholarly periodicals, and is multi-subject; HIC is limited to more scholarly articles in humanities subjects.

Another database of popular, scholarly and partially full-text articles is *General OneFile*.

*Humanities Index* and *Social Sciences Index*, 1974-95, index shelves

These two indexes were originally known as *International Index* from 1907 to 1965, then *Social Science and Humanities Index* from 1965-1974. After 1965, it was published as two separate titles.
**JSTOR**

Full-text database of over 300 titles, from volume 1, issue 1 for each periodical included. Below is a search on John Brown AND (mind OR mental OR zealot* OR psychology*) AND (anti-slavery OR antislavery OR abolitionist), with a result list of over 1000 hits.

![JSTOR Search Results](image)

**Project Muse**

Full text database of journals from Johns Hopkins and other university publishers. Here’s a search on Sacco and Vanzetti AND history:
World Catalog

Having trouble locating material in Kelly Library on a particular subject? Try World Catalog. It’s not a periodical index, but an index of books and other items. If you are not finding adequate material on your subject in the catalog, this is a good way to identify titles. For example, if you aren’t happy with the library’s holdings on how history is depicted in the movies, you might try a search like the one below to find some titles.
What If the Article is Not Full Text?

If you find articles that are not full-text in these databases/indexes, just do a title search in the online catalog and the Full Text E-Journals list. The catalog will tell you for what dates the title is owned and in what format it is stored (microfiche, electronic, etc.); the full text list will tell you if the library has electronic access to it through an online database. For example, the Full Text E-Journals list will tell you that the article in a 2008 issue of William & Mary Quarterly from the A: H&L search is available in JSTOR 1892-2004, and that Kelly Library has a subscription for current issues. So, you have access to that W&M Q article in Kelly Library’s print subscription periodicals. If the article is not available in print or online, you may want to request it through interlibrary loan.

REMOTE ACCESS

You can access all of these databases from off campus. To find directions on how to do this, click on the Off Campus Connection instructions on the library page. Basically, all you need to do is type the library home page and then click on the Journal Articles and Databases list. The first database you select will cause a login box to appear. Enter your user name and password, just as if you were logging on to a computer in the library or one of the labs. If you are having difficulty with off-campus access, please let one of the reference librarians know.

FINDING INTERNET SOURCES

You will find web sites on historians and other history topics by using search engines such as Google!, Altavista and others. Remember, there is a lot of weird stuff out there, and it is somewhat easier to publish a web site than it is a book. Check to see if web sites are affiliated with a university or professional group, indicate a copyright date or update, and present factually correct, typo-free information. Widener University maintains a web site that contains good evaluation tips http://www.widener.edu/about/campus_resources/wolfram_library/evaluate/default.aspx.

Here are a few interesting history/historian/historiography sites to get you started: WWW-VL: History Central Catalogue (http://vlib.iue.it/history/index.html), Ipl2 (http://www.ipl2.org/), Iowa State University’s E-Library (http://instr.iastate.libguides.com/history), Gilded Age and Progressive Era Resources (http://www.h-net.org/~shgape/netindex.html), and Yahoo (http://dir.yahoo.com/Arts/Humanities/History/Historiology). Also, in the previous section Finding Statistics and Primary Source Material, there are several websites listed. Take a look at History –Internet Resources under Subject Resources on the library web site.

As you use these print and electronic resources, you will find citations to journals and books Kelly Library does not own. Our staff will try to get article copies or borrow books for you through interlibrary loan. To order material this way, click on the interlibrary loan link on the library home page under Services. If you have never used this service, you will need to register by clicking on the first time users button and completing some user information—you’ll need your barcoded ID card. You will need to do this only one time. Then, you can proceed to the book and photocopy order forms. There is no charge for this service for the first 50 requests per academic year. Please double check your request in the catalog and the Full Text E-Journals list to be sure that the library does not own the material before you fill in the order form, and allow at least 5-7 working days to receive your order. Please do not submit more than 10 requests for returnable material (books) at one time. If you have questions about this service, ask Patty or Jane.

When you quote an author’s words, or paraphrase an author’s unique ideas, you must give credit to the source. If you do not, you have committed plagiarism, which is a violation of the E&H Honor Code. The different documentation styles for the various academic fields will help you avoid this. The History Department requires its students to use The Chicago Manual of Style or Kate Turabian’s Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses and Dissertations. Both are on reserve at the Circulation Desk. For electronic sources formats, click on Research Tips and look at some of the documentation sites. Also, don’t forget the resources at E&H’s Writing Center and Powell Resource Center.

NOTE: Please speak with a reference librarian if you are not finding information on your topic. We are here to help you with your information needs. The librarians that provide reference assistance are Jane Caldwell, Patty Greany, Jody Hanshew and Janet Kirby. Reference service is available from 8:00am-9pm Monday-Thursday; 8:30am-4:30pm Friday; 10am-5pm Saturday and 2pm-9pm Sunday during the regular semesters. Circulation staff members are Adam Alley, Jennifer Bassett, Katie Fletcher, David Lyons, Holly McCormick, and Janice Snead.

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