Library Resources and Research Techniques for History 297

Learning Outcomes: By the end of your library class you will be able to locate books and articles on your topic using the library catalog and periodical databases. You will also be familiar with subject-related encyclopedias.

Databases: Provide access to published material in magazines, journals, newspapers, and other sources. The UMW Library subscribes to these databases and they are part of the “Deep Web,” as opposed to the “Surface Web” or “Free Web.”

Finding the History and American Studies Subject Guide

- Click on “Guides” in the blue tab on the Library home page, http://libraries.umw.edu, or click on “Research Guides” in the “Get Help” section.
  - Click on “History and American Studies” (http://libguides.umw.edu/histamst).

Finding Subject Encyclopedias and Other Reference Works

- Define and narrow your topic; provide background material.
- Provide lists of other significant resources (that is, bibliographies).
- See UMW Libraries History and American Studies subject guide for some useful titles, including:
  - *Europe Since 1914: Encyclopedia of the Age of War and Reconstruction*

Finding Books

- Find books by author (last name first), title, subject headings (approved words and phrases that describe a topic), or just by typing words “anywhere.”
- Try a *Browse Search*. For example:
  - Europe, Eastern
  - Soviet Union—History
  - World War, 1939-1945
- Books are shelved by call number: A – L (third floor) and M – Z (second floor).
- Reference books are on the first floor near the Reference Desk.
Finding Articles

Links to history-related databases and other resources that provide abstracts of articles (summaries) and full-text articles are available in the “Locating Articles” section of the UMW Libraries History and American Studies subject guide (http://libguides.umw.edu/histamst). A good all-purpose database is:

**Academic Search Complete** (coverage varies; as far back as the 1880s to date)
- Includes thousands of full-text academic journals and periodicals in a wide variety of disciplines.
- *Important:* Can click on “Choose Databases” to add additional databases, such as *America: History and Life, Historical Abstracts, Humanities Full Text, Humanities International Complete,* and *Humanities and Social Sciences Index Retrospective, 1907-1984.*
- Can also choose all the databases that are provided by this particular publisher.

**JSTOR** (1800s to the last 1-5 years)
- A full-text collection of scholarly journals in a wide variety of disciplines.
- Use the “Advanced Search” to limit and focus your search.

Finding Books and Articles

**Quest**
- A search tool that allows users to find print and online resources at UMW Libraries through a single interface.
- Click on “Quest” from Library home page, http://libraries.umw.edu.
- A search in Quest will locate:
  - Books, e-books, journals, magazines, and newspapers, and DVDs
  - Articles from journals, magazines, newspapers, and much more

Reviewing Your Research

- See the “Reviewing Your Research” tab on the UMW Libraries History and American Studies subject guide (http://libguides.umw.edu/histamst).

Citing Your Sources

- Click on “Cite Sources” in the “How Do I?” section on the Library home page, http://libraries.umw.edu. (Also listed on the History and American Studies Library guide.)
- Provides links to Chicago / Turabian and other specific citation styles.
- Remember to check your citations using the UMW citation guides!

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