Finding the History and American Studies Subject Guides

- 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 and bibliographies.
- See UMW Libraries History and American Studies subject guide for some useful titles.
- Watch for the subject heading subdivisions of “encyclopedias” and / or “dictionaries.”

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.”
- 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.

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, articles, DVDs, and much more.

Jack Bales, 2018
115 Simpson Library
jbales@umw.edu
Finding Primary Sources

A. Notes and Bibliographies

- Researchers often utilize—and cite—original resource material when writing their secondary works. Consult the bibliographies / notes in these books and articles.

B. Books

- Primary resources are often collected and reprinted as entire books. For example:
  - *The Journals of Patrick Gass: Member of the Lewis and Clark Expedition*
  - *Lakota Noon: The Indian Narrative of Custer’s Defeat*
  - *Forbidden Diary: A Record of Wartime Internment, 1941-1945*
  - *Tokens of Affection: The Letters of a Planter’s Daughter in the Old South*
  - *Woodrow Wilson: An Intimate Memoir*
  - *The Russian Menace to Europe: A Collection of Articles, Speeches, Letters, and News Dispatches*

  - How do you find collections of primary sources such as these? A subject heading in the Library’s online catalog with the subdivision “sources” indicates primary sources on that subject (e.g., “West (U.S.)—History—Sources.”)
    - Using a keyword search, combine your topic with “sources”
    - For first-person accounts, try “personal narratives”
    - Another term is “interviews”
    - With people’s names, you can use “diaries” and correspondence
      - You can also try just looking up a person’s name as a subject heading. “Lewis, Meriwether” brings up *The Journals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition*.

C. Newspapers

- Contemporary articles can be found in newspapers. See the UMW Libraries’ guide to finding newspaper articles (http://libguides.umw.edu/newspapers). This newspaper resource is also linked on the “Finding Articles” and “Uncovering Primary Sources” tabs of the History and American Studies subject guide (http://libguides.umw.edu/histamst).

D. Online Resources

- See the dozens of resources listed in the “Uncovering Primary Sources” tab on the UMW Libraries History and American Studies subject guide (http://libguides.umw.edu/histamst).

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!