

HOW TO FIND INFORMATION ON POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT

I. SEARCHING THE ONLINE CATALOG

Search the library's online catalog to find the title and location of materials in the library. The link to the online catalog is available from the library web site <http://www.sunysccc.edu/library>. Select **Find Books/Media** and **Find Books/Media in This Library**. Type your keywords in the **Basic Keyword Search** text box and select **Subject** as the field to search. Examples of specific subject entries that appear in our online catalog are listed below.

United States Politics and Government
Presidents United States
United States Congress
United States Supreme Court
Elections United States
China (or another nation) Politics and Government
New York Politics and Government

II. ELECTRONIC BOOKS

The online catalog contains links to full-text electronic books. In order to access these books from home you will need to set up a **NetLibrary** account from a computer in the library. Ask a librarian if you need assistance.

III. REFERENCE

Reference books are located on the first floor of the library. Some recommended sources include:

General

<i>Time Almanac</i>	REF AY64 .T56 2007
<i>World Almanac & Book of Facts</i>	REF AY67 .N5 W7 2007
<i>CQ Guide to Current American Government</i>	REF JK1 .C14 2007
<i>CQ Politics in America</i>	REF JK1012 .C63 2006
<i>Constitution of the United States</i>	REF KF366 .UN4 v.1
<i>Encyclopedia of the American Constitution</i>	REF KF4548 .E53 2000

Dictionaries

<i>Oxford Concise Dictionary of Politics</i>	REF JA 61 .C665 2003
<i>Harper-Collins Dictionary of American Government and Politics</i>	REF JK9 .S43 1992
<i>International Relations: A Political Dictionary</i>	REF JX1226 .P55 1995

Executive Branch

<i>Encyclopedia of the American Presidency, 4 volumes</i>	REF JK511 .E53 1994
<i>Congressional Quarterly's Guide to the Presidency, 2 volumes</i>	REF JK516 .C57 2002
<i>Historic Documents on the Presidency, 1776-1989</i>	REF JK 511 .H57 1989

Legislative Branch

Biographical Dictionary of Congressional Women REF JK 1012 .F57 1999
Congress and the Nation, 11 volumes KF 49 .C653 1965 - 2006
Landmark Legislation 1774 – 2002 REF KF 68 .S73 2003

Judicial Branch

Oxford Guide to United States Supreme Court Decisions REF KF4548 .O97 1999
Congressional Quarterly's Guide to the United States Supreme Court, 2 volumes REF KF8742.W567 1997
Justices of the United States Supreme Court, 5 volumes REF KF8744 .F75 1995
Illustrated Great Decisions of the Supreme Court REF KF4549 .M334 2000

Political Parties & Elections

World Book Election 2000 REF JK526 2000
Encyclopedia of American Parties, Campaigns and Elections REF JK9 .B56 1999
Historical Dictionary of United States Political Parties REF JK2261 .B345 2000
History of U.S. Political Parties, 4 volumes REF JK2261 .S35 1973

New York State

The New York Red Book REF JK3430 .N5 2001-2002
The New York State Directory REF JK3430 .N55 2003/2004
A Guide to New York State Government REF JK3431 .G85 1995

IV. ELECTRONIC DATABASES

Electronic databases may be used to find full-text articles in journals, newspapers, and reference sources like encyclopedias. The electronic databases are available online via the library web site <http://www.sunysccc.edu/library>. Select the link **Find Articles** followed by the link **Databases by Subject**. Choose the **Law & Government** option which lists the following databases:

GPO – US Government Documents
Lexis-Nexis Academic Search Elite
Military & Government Collection (EBSCO)
Virtual Reference Library (Gale)

Other databases to consider include:

Academic Search Premier (EBSCO)
CQ Researcher
New York Times Full-Text Archive

V. MEDIA

Media materials are located on the first floor of the library and in the Instructional Technology Center on the second floor. Ask a librarian for help in finding items of interest.

VI. INTERNET

Some reliable sites for research include:

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

<http://www.usa.gov>

U.S. Government's official Web portal

<http://www.access.gpo.gov>

Provides free electronic access to information products produced by the Federal Government. Includes publications such as the *U.S. Government Manual*, the *Congressional Directory* and the *Economic Report of the President*.

<http://thomas.loc.gov>

Federal legislative information made available by the Library of Congress.

<http://www.house.gov>

U.S. House of Representatives

<http://www.senate.gov>

U.S. Senate

<http://whitehouse.gov>

The White House, President and Cabinet

<http://www.supremecourtus.gov>

U.S. Supreme Court

<http://www.fedstats.gov>

Federal statistics from more than 100 agencies

NEW YORK STATE GOVERNMENT

<http://www.state.ny.us>

Government of the State of New York

VII. LIBRARIANS

Reference Librarians will be happy to help you locate materials for your topic in this library and in other libraries. Please ask for assistance at the Reference Desk. You may also **e-mail** or **chat live** with a librarian via the Begley Library web site at <http://www.sunysccc.edu/library>. Select the link **Ask a Librarian**.

Created by Roman Koshykar (March 2001)

Updated by Lou Ann Stewart (May 2007)