

GUIDE TO RESEARCH IN AMERICAN HISTORY TO 1865

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** and **Find Books in This Library**. Type your keyword in the **Basic Keyword Search** text box and select **Subject** as the field to search. Examples of specific subject entries that appear in our catalog are listed below.

United States History Colonial Period	Thomas Jefferson
American Revolution	James Madison
Indians of North America Government Relations	United States History War of 1812
United States History Civil War	Frederick Douglass
Confederate States of America	Abolitionists

If your search retrieves a large number of results, narrow them down by choosing a relevant title, and then clicking on a subject heading in the full record. Books on American history are located on the second floor of the library.

II. REFERENCE

The following reference books are great starting points for your research – for learning more about a topic or person, and for checking facts and dates. The Reference section is located on the first floor of the library, behind the reference desk.

General

Dictionary of American History, vols. 1-7 (1776) & 2 vol. supplement (1996)
REF E 174 .D52 1776 & 1996

The Oxford Companion to United States History
REF E 174 .094 2001

American National Biography
REF CT 213 .A68 1999

Historical Statistics of the United States: Colonial Times to 1970, Parts 1 & 2
REF HA 202 .B87 1975

Encyclopedia of the American Constitution, vols. 1-6
REF KF 4548 .E53 2000

100 Key Documents in American Democracy
REF E 173 .A15 1994

The American Presidents
REF 176 .1 .A6563 2000

History of American Presidential Elections
REF E183 .H58 1985

Encyclopedia of American Social History, vols. 1-3
REF HN 57 .E58 1993

Historical Atlas of the United States
REF G1201.S1 N3 1988

Specific

The Historical Atlas of the American Revolution
REF E208 .B36 2000

Slavery in America: from Colonial Times to the Civil War
REF E441 .S36 2000

Encyclopedia of Battles in North America, 1517 to 1916
REF E46.5 .P87 2000

James Madison and the American Nation, 1751-1836: An Encyclopedia
REF E 342 .J36 1994

Documents of American Indian Diplomacy: Treaties, Agreements, and Conventions, 1775-1979, vols. 1 & 2
REF KF 8202 1999

African-American History in the Press, 1851-1899, vols. 1-2
REF E185.2 .A25 1996

Books About Early America, 2001 Titles
REF E 188 .A54 1989

III. ELECTRONIC DATABASES: PERIODICALS AND REFERENCE

Electronic databases may be used to find full-text articles in journals, newspapers, and Reference sources. The databases are available online via the library web site <http://www.sunysccc.edu/library>. Select the link **Find Articles**. Some useful databases are:

Periodicals

HarpWeek – The Civil War era
ArticleFirst (OCLC)
Academic Search Premier (EBSCO)
New York Times Full Text Archive

Reference

Virtual Reference Library (GALE)
Select the category History

IV. INTERNET

Some reliable sites for historical research include:

Documents for the Study of American History, from the University of Kansas
<http://www.vlib.us/amdocs/>

Documents in Law, History, and Diplomacy, from Yale Law School
<http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/avalon.htm>

Presidents Index
<http://odur.let.rug.nl/~usa/P/>

White House Guide to the Presidents
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/history/presidents/index.html>

The History Cooperative – provides online access to 8 scholarly historical journals
<http://www.historycooperative.org/>

American Indian History, from California State University, Long Beach
<http://www.csulb.edu/projects/ais/>

Spy Letters from the American Revolution, from the University of Michigan
<http://www.si.umich.edu/spies/>

Intelligence in the War of Independence, from the CIA
<https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/warindep/frames.html>

Civil War Resources on the Internet: Abolitionism to Reconstruction (1830's – 1890's)
from Rutgers University Libraries
http://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/rul/rr_gateway/research_guides/history/civwar.shtml

V. MEDIA

Media materials are located in the Instructional Technology Center on the second floor.
Ask a librarian to help you located these materials.

VI. 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 **email** or **chat live** with a librarian via the Begley Library web site at <http://www.sunysccc.edu/library>. Select the link **Ask a Librarian**.