

# Cerritos College Library

In the Wilford Michael Library & Learning Resource Center

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## RESEARCHING COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD

Your search for information on **countries and cultures of the world** can include books, periodicals, online databases, and authoritative Internet resources.

### Books

Use the **Library Catalog** located on the Cerritos College **Library Home Page** to find books on your topic that are available in the Cerritos College Library. Books can provide a broad overview of a topic or in-depth information. You can search for books by *Author, Title, Subject, or Keyword*.

Listed below are some *Library of Congress Subject Headings* used in the catalog for books relating to **countries and cultures of the world**. Use these terms to *Search by Subject*. Suggested *subject headings* include any country name using the following formats:

France	China	Mexico
France – Description and travel	China – Description and travel	Mexico – Description and travel
France – Social life and customs	China – Social life and customs	Mexico – Social life and customs
National characteristics, French	National characteristics, Chinese	National characteristics, Mexican

### Selected Reference Books

Reference books are a good starting point for your research because they help you become better acquainted with your topic. Listed below are some reference books that may be useful in your research.

#### **CultureGrams: The Nations Around Us**

REF DESK GT150 .C85 2002

#### **Folklore of World Holidays**

REF GT3930 .F65 1998

#### **World Book Encyclopedia**

REF DESK AE5 .W55 2009

#### **Worldmark Encyclopedia of the Nations**

REF G63 .W67 2003

Electronic resource –12 edition, 2007

*Gale Virtual Reference Library*

#### **World Factbook**

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>

#### **State Department Background Notes**

<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/>

#### **Encyclopedia of World Cultures**

REF GN307 .E53 1991 Supplement 2002

1996 edition in *Gale Virtual Reference Library*

#### **Holidays Festivals & Celebrations of the World Dictionary**

REF GT3925 .H64 2010

#### **Worldmark Encyclopedia of Cultures and Daily Life**

REF GN333 .W67 2009

#### **World Geographical Encyclopedia**

REF G63 .E5213 1995

## RESEARCHING COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD

### *Finding Magazine, Journal, and Newspaper Articles*

Journal and magazines usually provide the most current information on a topic. Journal articles are more scholarly or professional while magazine articles tend to be shorter and more general. Newspaper articles, while not usually scholarly or professional, can give you the most current news and some additional facts on your topic.

To find articles on your topic, use one of the online databases listed below. These databases usually provide full-text articles on almost every topic. They are available via the [Library Home Page](#). Conduct your search in these databases by using subject headings and keywords similar to those you used to locate books.

#### Online Databases for researching countries and cultures of the world:

*Country Watch*  
*EBSCOhost*

*Ethnic News Watch*  
*Gale Power Search*

*Access World News*

For remote access to the library databases, login to the [Library](#) using your Cerritos College ID number.

See the [Database Page](#) or handout for a complete description of the Cerritos College Library online resources.

For historical research, the Library also has print indexes that must be used to find older articles, generally anything published before 1985.

### Internet Sites

The Internet can be a valuable source for supplementing the information you have gathered from books and periodicals. It is important that you evaluate the information you get from the Internet to determine if it is reliable and useful to your research. A few Internet sites that may be useful are listed here.

#### **Portal to Culture (UNESCO)**

[http://portal.unesco.org/culture/en/ev.php-URL\\_ID=34603&URL\\_DO=DO\\_TOPIC&URL\\_SECTION=201.html](http://portal.unesco.org/culture/en/ev.php-URL_ID=34603&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)

#### **US Department of State Background Notes**

<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/>

### *Foreign Newspapers Online*

#### **WorldNet Daily – Online Newspapers by Title**

[http://www.worldnetdaily.com/resources/foreign\\_newspapers.asp](http://www.worldnetdaily.com/resources/foreign_newspapers.asp)

#### **Internet Public Library – Online Newspapers by Country**

<http://www.ipl.org/div/news/>

#### **MIT Libraries – Online Newspapers by Language**

<http://libraries.mit.edu/guides/types/flnews/>