

Cerritos College Library

In the Wilford Michael Library & Learning Resource Center

ART HISTORY 105A – PRE-COLUMBIAN ART

Your search for information on Pre-Columbian art of Mesoamerica, the Andes, Caribbean, and the Amazon will include books, journal articles, online databases, and authoritative Internet resources.

Books

Use the [Library Catalog](#) which is searchable from the Cerritos College [Library Home Page](#) to find books on your topic that are available in the Cerritos College Library. The general call numbers for books on all aspects of art range from **N1** to **NX765**. More specific call numbers for your topics can be found by searching the online catalog for the following subjects:

Art Mexican	Folk art Mexico	Maya art
Art Mexico	Indian art Central America	Maya sculpture
Art Prehistoric	Indian art Central America	Olmec art
Aztec art	Indian art Mexico	Sculpture Primitive
Aztec painting	Maya architecture	Teotihuacán Site

Additional subject searches can yield information about the cultures, beliefs, and lives of the people who created Pre-Columbian art. Sample searches include:

Aztecs Antiquities	Incas	Mexico Antiquities
Inca mythology	Indians of South America Andes Region Antiquities	Toltecs

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.

Ancient Americans: A Reference Guide to the Art, Culture, and History of Pre-Columbian North and South America REF E59.P42 S3613 2001	Encyclopedia of Latin American History and Culture REF F1406 .E53 2008 (also available in Gale Virtual Reference LibRary)
Archaeology of Ancient Mexico and Central America REF F1218.6 .A73 2001	Encyclopedia of Mexico: History, Society & Culture REF F1210 .E63 1997
Art in World History REF N31 .F33	Encyclopedia of Sculpture REF NB198 .E53 2004
Color Encyclopedia of World Art REF N31 .J32	Encyclopedia of Visual Art REF N25 .E53 1983
Continuum Encyclopedia of Native Art REF E98. A7 W49 2000	Encyclopedia of World Art REF N31 .E533
Dictionary of Art REF N31 .D5 1996	Grove Dictionary of Art REF N31 .D5 1996 (also Available in Oxford Art Online)

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Handbook of Mesoamerican Mythology REF F1219.3. R38 R42 2000	Oxford Encyclopedia of Mesoamerican Cultures REF F1218.6 .O95 2001
Larousse Encyclopedia of Prehistoric and Ancient Art: Art and Mankind REF N5300 .H953	Sculpture REF NB60 .S38130 1996
Oxford Companion to Art REF N33 .O9	

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, you will use the online databases, which usually provide full-text articles on almost every topic. They are accessible from the **Library Home Page**. Search these databases using subject headings and/or keywords similar to those you used to locate books.

EBSCOhost MasterFILE Premier	Gale Databases Discovering Collection Gale Virtual Reference Library	Proquest Databases Ethnic NewsWatch National Newspapers Core	Oxford Art Online Project Muse
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For remote access to the databases, you must login to your **MyLibrary** account. See the **E-Resources and Search Options Guide** for instructions at <http://cms.cerritos.edu/library/login-instructions>.

The Library also has print indexes that must be used to find older articles, generally anything published before 1975.

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 helpful are listed here.

Ancient Mexican Art (National Museum of the American Indian) http://americanindian.si.edu/exhibitions/ancient/english/index.html	Metropolitan Museum of Art: Arts of Africa, Oceania, and the Americas http://www.metmuseum.org/collections/department.asp?dep=5
AncientMexico.com http://www.ancientmexico.com	The National Anthropology Museum http://www.mexicocity.com.mx/mantro.html
Art History Resources on the Web http://witcombe.sbc.edu/ARTHLinks.html	Pre-Columbian Art and Architecture http://www.history.com/encyclopedia.do?articleId=219773
ArtCyclopedia http://www.artcyclopedia.com/	Pre-Columbian Art: MFAH http://mfah.org/collection.asp?par1=17&par2=1&par3=1&par4=1&par5=1&par6=1&par7=&lqc=4&eid=&currentPage
British Museum http://www.britishmuseum.org/	Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian: Ancient Mexican Art http://www.nmai.si.edu/exhibitions/ancient/english/index.html
MesoWeb http://www.mesoweb.com/	