

Cerritos College Library

In the Wilford Michael Library & Learning Resource Center

AMERICAN HISTORY

Your search for information on **American history** 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 **American history**. Use these terms to *Search by Subject*. Remember, this list is by no means conclusive.

United States – Civilization

United States – Commerce

United States – Economic conditions

United States – Economic policy

United States – Emigration and immigration

United States – Environmental aspects

United States – Foreign relations

United States – History

United States – Politics and government

United States – Social conditions

United States – Social life and customs

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.

American Decades

REF E169.12 A4

Columbia Guide to American Environmental History

REF GF501 .M47 2002

Dictionary of American History

REF E174 .D52 2003 (Volume 1)

Encyclopedia of American Social History

REF HN57 .E58 1993 (Volume 1)

Encyclopedia of Women in American History

REF HQ 1410 .E53 2002

American History Desk Reference

REF E174 .N48 1997

Dictionary of American Biography

REF E176 .D563

Encyclopedia of American Religious History

REF BL2525 .Q44 2001 (Volume 1)

Encyclopedia of American Studies

REF E169.1 E625 2001 (Volume 1)

Handbook of American Women's History

REF HQ1410 .H36 2000

AMERICAN HISTORY

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 American history:

EBSCOhost
Country Watch

Gale Databases
NewsBank

Project Muse
Proquest Newspapers

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.

American Memory Timeline

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/ndlpedu/features/timeline/>

Harp Week

<http://www.harpweek.com/>

1890s America: A Chronology

<http://www.bgsu.edu/departments/acs/1890s/chronology.html>

Holt Labor Library

<http://www.holtlaborlibrary.org/>

Reading, Writing, and Researching for History: A Guide for College Students

<http://academic.bowdoin.edu/WritingGuides/>

A Chronology of US Historical Documents

<http://www.law.ou.edu/hist/>

Plessy v. Ferguson

<http://rs6.loc.gov/ammem/today/may18.html>

EHistory

<http://ehistory.osu.edu/>