

# Cerritos College Library

In the Wilford Michael Library & Learning Resource Center

## INVENTIONS AND DISCOVERIES

Your search for information on *inventions* and *discoveries* can include books, periodicals, online databases, and authoritative Internet resources

### 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 Men and Women of Science**

REF Q141 .A51 2008

#### **Inventing the 20<sup>th</sup> Century**

REF T20 .V35 2000

#### **Asimov's Chronology of Science and Discovery**

REF A125 .A765 1989

#### **McGraw-Hill Encyclopedia of Science & Technology**

REF Q121 .M3 2007

#### **Cutting Edge: an Encyclopedia of Advanced Technologies**

REF T9 .C96 2000

#### **Notable Scientists from 1900 to the Present**

REF Q141 .N728 2001

#### **Gadgets and Necessities**

REF T298 .W43 2000

#### **Science and Its Times**

REF Q175.46 .S35 2000

#### **Illustrated Almanac of Science, Technology, and Invention**

REF Q158.5 .F73 1997

#### **World of Invention**

REF T15 .W82 1999

**Facts on File**, **CQ Electronic Library** and the **Gale Databases** are online resources that may provide *useful* background information and statistical information as well.

### 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 *inventions* and *discoveries*. Use these terms to *Search by Subject*. Remember, this list is by no means conclusive.

<b>Discoveries</b>	<b>Inventions</b>	<b>Inventions – History – 20<sup>th</sup> century</b>
<b>Inventions – United States</b>	<b>Inventors – Biography</b>	<b>Women inventors</b>

To search an inventor of discoverer by name, enter the last name first [ex. Doe, John]

You may also try a Keyword searches for *inventors*, *inventions*, or *discoveries*.

## INVENTIONS AND DISCOVERIES

### Magazine, Journal and Newspaper Articles

Journals 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.

<b><i>EBSCOhost Databases</i></b>	<b><i>Project Muse</i></b>
<b><i>Facts on File</i></b>	<b><i>Proquest Newspapers</i></b>
<b><i>Gale Databases</i></b>	<b><i>Science Direct Journal Collection</i></b>
<b><i>In the First Person</i></b>	<b><i>World Book Encyclopedia Complete Suite</i></b>

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.

#### **About.com: Inventors**

<http://inventors.about.com>

#### **Discovery Channel**

<http://dsc.discovery.com/>

Explore the News drop-down menu

#### **Greatest Engineering Achievements of the Twentieth Century**

<http://www.greatachievements.org>

#### **A Guide to Inventions and Discoveries: From Adrenaline to the Zipper**

<http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0004637.html>

#### **National Science Foundation**

<http://www.nsf.gov/discoveries/>

#### **Time's Best Inventions of 2008**

<http://www.time.com/time/specials/packages/0,28757,1852747,00.html>

Prior years also available

#### **A Science Odyssey: People and Discoveries**

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/aso/databank/bioindex.html>