

# History Research

http://library.up.edu 503-943-7788 library@up.edu

# I. Getting Oriented; Selecting a Topic

Still thinking about a topic? Consider using <u>Reference Universe</u> to locate an encyclopedia that will list topic ideas in your field of interest; it's an online search engine that helps you explore the tables-of-contents and indexes of thousands of reference books.

# II. Locating Books, etc. – for Primary and Secondary Sources

UP WorldCat – Search UP, Summit, & Beyond.

UP WorldCat displays, University of Portland Library holdings, followed by Summit libraries – over 30 academic libraries in Oregon and Washington -- from which you can request books. Books arrive at UP in 2-3 days. Following your Summit results, you'll see books and other items held by "WorldCat Libraries," an international network of member libraries. Books arrive in 7-10 days.

To find primary sources: Add one of these terms to your UP / Summit / WorldCat keyword search with "su:" in front, e.g. "su:diaries":

-- Bibliography -- Charters, Grants, Privileges -- Description and Travel

-- Correspondence -- Diaries -- Facsimiles -- Early works to 1800 -- Interviews -- Notebooks -- Pamphlets -- Personal Narratives -- Sources

-- Speeches

# **III. Locating Articles (Secondary Sources)**

The library subscribes to a variety of databases (online indexes) that are useful for historical research. For a list of these databases go to the library's home page, choose **Find Articles**, then select the **History** Subject Guide:

Choose one of the following databases and try searching for articles on your topic:

America: History and Life (U.S. and Canada), from prehistoric times.

Historical Abstracts (the rest of the world), from 1450 to present.

ITER (the world), from 400-1700.

Obtaining Articles from history databases is a simple two-step process!

1. Search Journal Titles A-Z / Get it @ UP

Is the article online?

2. Use Interlibrary Loan

It's free, quick and simple

### IV. Finding Primary Sources via Indexes

The Clark Memorial Library has several web-based and print indexes to articles, and some web-based full text, published from the 1800s to the present. If your subject takes place during this time period, these indexes are excellent ways to find information published at the time of the event.

- Poole's Index to Periodical Literature -- 1802-1906, in print
- Readers' Guide Retrospective -- 1890-1982 online
- New York Times (Proquest Historical Newspapers) -- 1851-2005 online
- <u>The Oregonian (weekly) / Morning Oregonian / Oregonian</u> microfilm; 1850 to present, <u>index online</u> and also on microfiche. We will scan articles for you!
- <u>The Catholic Periodical Index</u> / <u>Catholic Periodical and Literature Index</u> -- 1930-2003, in print

Many primary sources are available online as digitized files. See the subject guide for gateways to both print and online materials



tab in the history

#### V. Further Assistance

Reference Librarians are available Mon – Tues, 10am-8pm (except 5-6pm) Weds – Fri, 10am-5pm Sunday 12-8pm (except 5-6pm)