



# World History

## A Guide to Selected Resources

Reference & Fact Finding

Books & eBooks

Journals, Magazines, & Newspapers

Great Websites!

### Reference & Fact Finding

[Encyclopedias](#) || [Biography](#) || [Primary Sources](#) || [Maps/Historical Atlases](#)

#### Encyclopedias

***AHA Guide to Historical Literature.*** (American Historical Association) [REF D 20 .A55]

A bibliography of world history. Each chapter includes a brief introductory essay summarizing the history and development of that area of historical inquiry. With author and subject indexes and a list of journals.

***Oxford Illustrated Encyclopedia of World History.*** [REF D 358 .W74]

***Story of Civilization.*** Will Durant. [CB 53 .D85]

***Timetables of History.*** [REF D 11 .G78 1991]

***Cambridge Ancient History*** 3rd ed. [REF D 57 .C252]

Covers regions, time periods, and topics. Considered to be one of the most valuable English-language sources for ancient history.

***Critical Dictionary of the French Revolution*** [DC 148 .D5313]

Essays arranged in five groups: events, actors, institutions and creations, ideas, historians and commentators. Short bibliographies; indexes by theme and name.

***Dictionary of European History, 1485-1789.*** [REF D 231 .W54]

***Encyclopedia of Ancient Civilizations*** [REF CB 311 .E53]

***New Cambridge Modern History*** 14 vols. [REF D 208 .N4]

**[LookLEX](http://i-cias.com/e.o/index.htm)** (formerly Encyclopedia of the Orient) [http://i-cias.com/e.o/index.htm]

History and culture of countries we usually refer to as "The Middle East."

#### Biography

**[Biography in Context](#)**

Full-text database of biographical information on more than 200,000 people from throughout history, around the world, and across all disciplines and subject areas. Bibliographies available for many entries.

**[Biography.com](http://www.biography.com)** [http://www.biography.com]

More than 25,000 biographies with links.

***Dictionary of National Biography*** [REF DA 28 .D4]

Authoritative biographical source for prominent Britons up to 1960.

## Primary Sources

**A NOTE ABOUT PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SOURCES:** The *Historian's Handbook* defines a primary source as one that "gives the words of the witnesses of the first recorders of an event," as compared to secondary sources, which are descriptions of events based on primary sources (175). Published material is most often considered primary if it is true to the original (for example, a collection of letters), or if the publication occurs almost concurrently with the reported event (for example, a newspaper account).

**[EuroDocs: Primary Historical Documents from Western Europe](http://eudocs.lib.byu.edu/index.php/Main_Page)** [http://eudocs.lib.byu.edu/index.php/Main\_Page] Primary source material from 22 countries (plus Vatican City). Sites sorted by country and listed chronologically. Includes letters, facsimiles of paintings and photographs, journals, and official documents.

**[Internet History Sources Project](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/)** [http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/] Links to a number of sites in primary collections, such as the **Internet Ancient History Sourcebook**, **The Internet Medieval Sourcebook** (including a large collection of primary texts from the Middle Ages, conveniently divided into three different tables of content: "Selected Texts," "Full Texts," and "Saints' Lives." In addition to many primary documents, users can find maps and images, information on films with medieval themes, and links to other medieval sites.), and **The Modern History Sourcebook** (documents begin in the European Reformation (Luther and Calvin) and end in the present (computers, the Internet, and the Environment).

## Maps and Historical Atlases

**[Perry-Castaneda Library Map Collection](https://legacy.lib.utexas.edu/maps/)** [https://legacy.lib.utexas.edu/maps/] Links to more than 230,000 maps covering every area of the world. See especially the link to "Historical Maps" (Historical Maps of United States are grouped chronologically.) See also "Other Historical Maps Web Sites" (links grouped by geographical area).

**[Atlapedia Online](http://www.atlapedia.com/)** [http://www.atlapedia.com/] Full color physical and political maps as well as key facts and statistics on countries of the world. The Countries "A to Z" section provides facts, figures and statistical data on geography, climate, people, religion, language, history, economy and more for individual countries. The "World Maps" section provides full color maps for regions of the world.

## Books & Articles

**[WorldCat Discovery](#)** is a single search box on the Library's homepage that searches:

- All library-owned print books, including textbooks and reserves
- Millions of ebooks through eBook Central, Google Books, and the Hathi Trust Digital Library
- Journal articles, conference papers and newspaper articles from most of the Library's databases
  - Some databases are better suited to being searched directly (see the next section)
- And books and articles outside of our library by selecting *Libraries Worldwide*
  - Request items from other libraries using the "Request Items" button

Simply enter your terms into the single search box on the Library home page, and click Search. Use the resulting options (print book or article; date range; author, etc.) on the left of the results page to refine your search.

**[ONE SEARCH TO FIND THEM ALL](#)**

Browse the Call Numbers of print books (find and look around the below locations in the book shelves):

**CB 5 - 478 History of Civilization**  
**D 117 - 199 Medieval History**  
**D 283 - 295 History 1715 - 1789**  
**D 353 - 400 Nineteenth Century**  
**D 410 - 475 Twentieth Century**  
**D 501 -680 World War I (1914-1918)**  
**D 731 - 838 World War II (1939-1945)**  
**D 839 - 850 Post War History (1945- )**

Specific Subject Heading Searching: For example: Enter "su:( holocaust, jewish)" in WorldCat Discovery

Generally, most places as subject are divided by standard broad subdivisions. For example:

**[place]--economic conditions--**  
**[place]--history--[dates]**  
**[place]--history--[event]**  
**[place]--social conditions**

Specific events or historical figures may have their own subject headings or be subdivisions under the history of a place. For example:

**world war, 1914-1918--**  
**holocaust, jewish**  
**france--history--revolution, 1789-1795**  
**great britain--history--George V, 1910-1936**

## Other Article Databases

WorldCat Discovery searches MOST of the library databases. Those listed here are either NOT available via WorldCat Discovery or contain content that must be found or are better found directly in the relevant database. Each database below will include a note indicating not found (NF) or better found (BF).

If you cannot access the full text of an article in these databases, place an [Interlibrary Loan/Document Delivery](#) request.

### [World History in Context](#) (BF)

Information on people, events, and topics in world history. Includes articles from reference works, academic journals and magazines, primary source documents, images, video and audio.

## Great Websites!

### [Evaluating Web Sites](#)

### [HistoryWiz](http://www.historywiz.com/) [http://www.historywiz.com/]

Search by time, region, or topic.

### [The WWW Virtual Library: World History](http://vlib.iue.it/history/index.html) [http://vlib.iue.it/history/index.html]

This site provides links (no descriptions) grouped by topics and then listed alphabetically within each topic. Topics include: General History; African-Americans; Archives and Bibliographies; Civil War; Colonial and Revolutionary America; Early National Period; Environmental History; Immigration; American Indian; Intellectual and Cultural History; Labor; Legal and Constitutional History; Political; Pop Culture; Technology; Urban; Western; and Women's History.

<https://hub.nichols.edu/Documents/worldhistory.pdf>

Conant Library, Nichols College

Please send comments to [STARdesk@nichols.edu](mailto:STARdesk@nichols.edu)

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