USE DICTIONARIES, ENCYCLOPEDIAS, ETC.

- Clarify and understand concepts
- Discover research topics
- Discover keywords that can be used to do your research

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*International Encyclopedia of the Social and Behavioral Sciences*  
**Summary:** An online scholarly encyclopedia that comprises 4000 articles, 90,000 bibliographic references, and comprehensive name and subject indexes. Suggested topics you may want to explore: Area and International Studies; Culture/Cultural Studies; Development and Modernization Studies; Global/International Studies; Political Science; Urban Studies – has considered histories of concept origins and references to key works.

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**Development Gateway**
Not necessarily peer-reviewed, scholarly literature but may provide some background.

**Books**

Use [QCAT](The Library Catalog) - need a refresher on searching QCAT – try this [tutorial](tutorial).

**Tips for keyword searches in QCAT:**
Note: Do not cut and paste these searches in QCAT – you must retype them in the QCAT search box

- **Keyword Boolean** search (“economic development” or “international development”) and culture
- **Keyword Boolean** search (“economic development” or “international development”) and (globalisation or globalization)
- **Keyword Boolean searches for more specific topics such as** (“economic development” or “international development”) and religio? (the ? will retrieve religion, religious, religions) OR politic? and (art or theatre or theater or drama)
- Civil society is another way to describe non-governmental organizations
- When you do Keyword OR Keyword Boolean searches the tables of contents of many books will also be searched – some titles on the results list may not look relevant but in fact they may have chapters on the very topic you are researching – Look at the complete record!

**Peer-reviewed or scholarly journal literature**
(Need a refresher on what this means? Look at this [tutorial](tutorial))

The following are databases where you can search for scholarly articles and in many cases link to the full journal articles. Note that some of the databases allow you to limit your search to only peer-reviewed, scholarly literature – look for the icons, or checkboxes. For those that do not have this feature make sure you evaluate what you find – is it really scholarly?)
NOTE: If you are using these databases from off-campus you will have to sign on to the proxy server (a box will automatically appear where you can enter your netid and password) – if it does not go to http://proxy.queensu.ca/login

Start with:
The following are good, multi-disciplinary databases – a suggested starting point for your research:

- Academic Search Complete
- Social Sciences @ Scholars Portal Search
- Google Scholar

Then try:

- GEOBASE
  Publication coverage: 1980 - present
  An international and interdisciplinary database for the fields of physical and human geography, geology, ecology, and Third World studies, including development studies, ecology, human geography and environmental issues.

- PAIS International and PAISArchive
  Publication coverage: 1915 - present
  Indexes articles, books, government documents and more from over 120 countries in the area of business, economics, finance, law, international relations, public administration, government, and contemporary public issues.

- Alternative Press Index
  Publication coverage: 1991 - present (updated quarterly)
  Print holdings: Stauffer Reference HN51 .A48 from 1969 –

- EconLit
  Publication coverage: 1969 - present
  Indexes articles from over 750 economics journals as well as books, dissertations, working papers, and book reviews. Only use this database if your topic and paper has a strong economic focus.

Getting help
If you are having difficulties with your research please ASK for help by:

Visiting the Stauffer Library Research Assistance Desk  
Monday-Friday, 10am-5pm; Saturday/Sunday, 1pm-4pm

OR Contacting  
Jackie Druery  
Global Development Studies Liaison Librarian  
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