

Reformation and Revolution in Early Modern England

History 418

Consider Resources

Primary Resources: diaries, letters, speeches, sermons, government documents

Secondary Resources: books, journal articles (scholarly vs. popular), theses, the Web

Check subject guide under: **Research by Subject → History → By Region → British**

Find Background Information

You may need to look up background information or definitions of terms to help you understand your topic better, and to give you ideas on how to research more deeply for information on your topic. The following titles are shelved in the Stauffer Library Reference collection unless otherwise indicated.

Oxford Companion to British History (Online)

Tudor England: an Encyclopedia REF DA315 .T753 2001+

Oxford Companion to Scottish History (Online)

Oxford Companion to Irish History (Online)

Oxford Encyclopedia of the Reformation (Online)

Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (Online)

Biographical Dictionary of British Radicals in the Seventeenth Century REF DA377 .B54 1982

Encyclopedia of the Renaissance REF CB361 .52 1999

For more resources, check the Dictionaries and Encyclopedias section of the British history subject guide.

Find Primary Sources

For general information about primary sources, go to: **Research by Subject → Primary Sources**

There is an abundance of primary source material in Stauffer Library. The form will vary from topic to topic. It may be a diary, correspondence, letters, newspaper accounts, a law, a debate in Parliament, editorials, a painting, etc. from the period of study, as well as electronic, microfilm, and printed collections of these documents published at a later date.

1. Use QCAT

Search *QCAT* to find books, government documents and the location of newspaper and journal titles.

A. Search by Subject or Keyword

You can locate items in the library by searching QCAT by doing a keyword Boolean search and then adding one of the special subject terms to your search:

- correspondence
- diaries
- early works to 1800
- interviews
- pamphlets
- personal narratives
- sources
- speeches

"great britain" and (social or society) and history and **sources**

Also browse subject headings and look for these special subject terms:

Great Britain--Church history--16th century--**Sources**
Constitutional history--Great Britain--**Sources**
Great Britain—History--Civil War, 1642-1649--**Personal narratives**
Women--Great Britain--**Diaries**

Collections of primary sources often have the word **documents** in the title:

documents and england and reformation

B. Look up Historical Figures, Organizations, and Agencies...

If you know of a person involved in the event or from the time period, look under that person's name as an author (or subject) for memoirs, diaries, and correspondence. For example:

Pepys, Samuel
Locke, John

Look up groups or organizations as an author (or subject).

Great Britain. Public Record Office

2. Use Government Documents

Publications generated by a government body, public records, reports and statistics are excellent sources of primary materials. Government Documents reference assistance is available Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 2-4 p.m. or by appointment. You can reach Jeff Moon by email at moonj@queensu.ca.

Collections of primary sources for the time period being studied include:

Calendar of State Papers Domestic - on Microfilm

For information about the British parliamentary documents, and in particular the *Calendar of State Papers Domestic*, check: library.queensu.ca/webdoc/gov/uklegislative.htm

Historical Manuscripts Commission

To find these collections in QCAT, search by author:
Great Britain Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts

Note that the majority of these documents are shelved in Compact Shelving on the fourth floor of Stauffer Library.

Examples of print primary source collections:

Crown and Parliament in Tudor-Stuart England: a Documentary Constitutional History, 1485-1714 (print and online)

The Law and Working of the Constitution: Documents 1660-1914

English Historical Documents (print and online)

Parliament, Politics and Elections, 1604-1648

English Family Life, 1576-1716: an Anthology from Diaries

Half Humankind: Contents and Texts of the Controversy about Women in England, 1540-1640

Tudor Economic Documents

Proceedings in the Parliaments of Elizabeth I

Check QCAT for call numbers and location.

3. Search Databases and the Web

Access the following via Databases:

Early English Books Online (EBBO)

This index contains full text images from 1475 to 1700 and contains images of works by such authors as Malory, Spenser, Bacon, More, Erasmus, Boyle, Newton, and Galileo. The database also includes musical exercises by Henry Purcell, novels by Aphra Behn, and prayer books, pamphlets, proclamations, almanacs, calendars, and many other primary resources.

British and Irish Women's Letters and Diaries 1500 to 1950

The experiences of approximately 500 women, as revealed in over 100,000 pages of diaries and letters spanning more than 300 years.

Defining Gender

Contains original source material from British and European archives in the field of gender studies within a broad historical, literary and cultural context.

In the First Person: an Index to Letters, Diaries, Oral Histories and Personal Narratives

Indexes close to 4,000 collections of oral history from around the world, which includes letters, diaries, autobiographies and other first person accounts.

Web Resources

Some websites provide access to online versions of primary sources. These may be digitized images, facsimiles, or full text. For example:

Avalon Project : Documents in Law, History and Diplomacy avalon.law.yale.edu/

British History Online www.british-history.ac.uk/Default.aspx

A digital library containing some of the core printed primary and secondary sources for the medieval and modern history of the British Isles. For example, partial reports of the Historical Manuscripts Commission.

British Legal History www.law.cam.ac.uk/resources_history.php

History of the United Kingdom: Primary Documents

[eudocs.lib.byu.edu/index.php/History_of_the_United_Kingdom: Primary Documents](http://eudocs.lib.byu.edu/index.php/History_of_the_United_Kingdom:_Primary_Documents)

Internet History Sourcebooks Project www.fordham.edu/halsall/

Modern History Sourcebook www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/modsbook.html

Reformation Europe www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/modsbook1.html#ref

Parliamentary Archives www.parliament.uk/business/publications/parliamentary-archives/

For links to published parliamentary material (current as well as historical) available online, including on external websites, select "Digitised Historical Parliamentary Material".

You can also try to search the web for primary source collections. However it is important to evaluate sites since there is no quality control for materials on the web.

TIP: One way to find quality sites is to search for one mounted at educational institutions. For example, try this search in Google.

"primary sources" tudor reformation **site:edu** (advanced search in Google)

Find Secondary Sources

1. Books

To find books on your topic in QCAT, think of the words that best describe your topic and then connect them with Boolean operators: **AND, OR, NOT**.

My topic: Why did civil war break out in England in 1642?

My search:

"civil war" **and** england

Search by: Keyword Boolean

Select useful titles and look at the subject headings. Use them to provide more keyword ideas or as individual searches themselves.

"civil war" **and** (causes **or** origins) **and** "great Britain"

Search by Subject

Great Britain--History--Civil War, 1642-1649

Great Britain--History--Civil War, 1642-1649--Causes

Other useful subject headings for an overview of the historical period include:

Great Britain--History--Restoration

Great Britain--History--Stuarts, 1603-1714

Great Britain--History--Charles II

Great Britain--Civilization--17th century

Great Britain--Economic conditions--16th century

Great Britain--Politics and government--1603-1714

Great Britain--Religion--17th century

Great Britain-- Social conditions--17th century

Great Britain--Social life and customs--16th century

Reformation--England

Women--England--History

Women--Great Britain--History

Note the sub-headings,
e.g. History...

2. E-Books

The library subscribes to a number of e-book packages. Packages that are of interest to history students are: *ACLS Humanities E-Book*, *Canadian Electronic Library*, *MyiLibrary*, *Blackwell Reference Online*, *Cambridge Histories Online*, and *e-Duke Books Scholarly Collection* (via ebrary).

Records for some of these e-books are in QCAT but one should directly go to these e-book packages and search them. Access is via **Databases**.

3. Articles

Use the following online databases to find scholarly articles.

- Historical Abstracts
- Bibliography of British and Irish History

Also try these other indexes:

- Humanities & Social Sciences Retrospective Index: 1907-1984
- Gender Studies Database
- Iter (for materials pertaining to the Middle Ages and Renaissance)
- MLA International Bibliography
- Religion Database

To search indexes, click the tab **Databases** and enter the title of the database.

Historical Abstracts

Covers the history of the world from 1450 to the present. It indexes articles from approximately 2300 journals, selected books and dissertations.

Search:	elizabethan puritanism
Modify search:	puritan* and (england or great britain)
Click on Advanced Search	
Limit by Historical Period:	1558 to 1603

To find out if Queen's subscribes to the journal, click **Get It! @ Queen's** if full text not readily available.

Bibliography of British and Irish History

Covers history of the British Isles, and of the British Empire and Commonwealth.

Queen's Library subscribes to about 90,000 full text e-journals via various publishers' packages. Search QCAT or Journals A to Z to find specific titles. One collection that is of particular interest to history students is **JSTOR**, a digitized collection of articles from key periodicals (about 240 history titles are indexed), excluding the most current 2 to 5 years of a title. Access JSTOR via the link, Databases.

4. Summon

With Summon, you can easily search, discover and access information on any topic from the Queen's Library collections - print and electronic books, single articles to entire e-journals, newspapers, theses and more. You can limit your results to peer-reviewed materials, to filter by year and format, narrow by additional subject terms and then save, print or email references.

Summon is a good starting point to find material for your research but if you are doing higher level research, you will want to search relevant subject specific databases.

Search Other Library Catalogues

If you don't find what you need in QCAT, try searching other library catalogues, using WorldCat. WorldCat is a database of library catalogues around the world. It can help you identify materials in other libraries, which you may then request through Interlibrary Loan. To access, click on **Find Information** and then on **Other Library Catalogues**.

Request an Interlibrary Loan

Use interlibrary loan (ILL) to obtain loans or copies of items that Queen's libraries do not own. Click **RACER** on the library homepage. For more information, consult the brochure: [RACER, Our Interlibrary Loan System](#).

Search the Web

Check our Search the Web guide at: library.queensu.ca/research/guide/search-web



www.google.ca/advanced_search?hl=en

...offers a variety of ways to structure a more precise search and to improve the efficiency of your search results.



books.google.ca/

...searches for books on your topic. In many cases, a limited preview of the book is available - you can then search QCAT, the library catalogue to see if Queen's owns a copy. In other instances, the complete book is available in digital form from Google Books.



scholar.google.ca/

... searches for scholarly materials including journal articles, theses, books, preprints, abstracts and technical reports from broad areas of research.
... searches a variety of academic publishers, professional societies, preprint repositories and universities, as well as scholarly articles available across the web.

TIP: By searching Google Scholar through the Queen's Library website the "Get It! @ Queen's" citation linker is activated (which allows you to click through to the Library's subscriptions). To import citations into RefWorks choose **Scholar Preferences**, then **Bibliography Manager**. Select RefWorks. Save Preferences.

Evaluate Websites

Anyone can create a webpage; so it is particularly important to analyze and assess information that you find on the Web before using it in a research paper.

Go to our *Evaluating Web Sources* page for a checklist of points to consider when analyzing a webpage:

[How-to & Help](#) → [How-To Guides](#) → [Finding ...](#) → [Web: Evaluate](#)

Cite Sources

Check our *Citation and Style Guides* page at: [How-to & Help](#) → [How to Cite Sources](#)



Chicago is the preferred style of documentation in history. Check QCAT for print copies in the library system.

Since there are many different citation styles, always check with your instructors to determine which style is expected for your courses.

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Learning and Research Services
Stauffer Library
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