Modern Quebec
Research Strategy for History 309

Get Connected

Library Web Page → library.queensu.ca

To access the Library’s online subscription resources from off-campus, sign in with your NetID and password at: proxy.queensu.ca

Help → Connect from Off-Campus

Consider Resources

Primary Resources: letters, speeches, newspaper articles, government documents
Secondary Resources: books, journal articles (scholarly vs. popular), theses, the Web

To find resources in history, check the Canadian History research guide by clicking on:
Resources by Subject → History → Canadian History

The following titles can be useful for quick overviews:

- The Canadian Encyclopedia (Online)
- Dictionary of Canadian Biography (Online)
- Encyclopédie du Québec REF F5405.L33

Find Books

QCAT contains references to books, periodicals (both journals and newspaper titles but not the articles within them), government documents and more.

Search by Journal Title


Search by Keyword

Use a keyword search to find books on a topic when you do not have an author or title. Think of keywords that best describe your topic and connect terms with **AND**, **OR**, **NOT**. For a selection of books on the “Quiet Revolution”, try this search:

“quiet revolution” **and** quebec

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

(“quiet revolution” **or** nationalism) **and** quebec

Search by Subject

Relevant subject headings for this topic:

- Nationalism--Quebec (Province)--History--1960-
- Quebec (Province)--History--Autonomy and independence movements
- Canada—English-French relations--History
- Lesage, Jean, 1912-1980

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

- Quebec (Province)--History--1960-1976
- Quebec (Province)--Politics and government--1960-1976
- Prime ministers--Quebec (Province)--Biography

You can also browse in the stacks (third floor of Stauffer) for these call numbers:

- FC540-639 20th century Canada
- FC2901-2950 Quebec local history
- JL1-500 Political institutions in Canada

Find Primary Sources

**Primary source** material is a key part of historical research. It reflects the individual viewpoint of a participant or observer.

There are many primary sources in the libraries, including documents (books, diaries, letters, etc.) from the period of study, as well as electronic, microfilm, and print collections of these documents published at a later date.

A **secondary source** interprets and analyses primary sources. Secondary sources are one step removed from the event. Some examples are: textbooks, journal articles, histories, criticism, commentaries and encyclopedias.

For information about primary sources, go to:

- Research Tools → Resources by Subject → Primary Sources
1. **Use QCAT**

Search QCAT to find books, videos, government documents, and the location of newspaper and journal titles. To find individual newspaper and journal articles, see Indexes below.

**A. Search by subject or keyword**

You can locate items in the library by searching QCAT by doing a keyword search and then adding one of the special subject terms to your search: *correspondence, diaries, interviews, pamphlets, personal narratives, sources...*

   *quebec and independence and sources*

or by browsing subject headings and looking for these special subject terms:

   *Quebec (Province)--History--Sources*

**B. Look up the people, organizations, and agencies as authors**

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:

   *levesque, rene*

Look up groups or organizations as an author (or subject), e.g. *parti liberal du quebec*

2. **Use Periodical and Newspaper Indexes Covering the Time Period**

*Newspapers* are a good source of primary information. Stauffer has a number of Canadian and Quebec newspapers from the 19th and 20th centuries on microfilm (located on the lower level).

To find out what we have, search QCAT by newspaper title, e.g. *Devoir*, or search the catalogue by subject heading, e.g. *montreal quebec newspapers*.

For newspaper resources go to:

   ![Resources by Subject → Newspapers](resources_by_subject_newspapers)

Check out the following:

   *Globe and Mail* (1844 - 4 years ago)
   *Toronto Star Pages of the Past* (1894 - 3 years ago)

Journals and magazines published at the time are another type of primary source. To locate early 20th century periodical literature, consult the following indexes:

   *Humanities and Social Sciences Index Retrospective: 1907-1984* (online)
3. Use Government Documents

Publications generated by a government body, public records, reports and statistics are excellent sources of primary materials. Government documents are located on the lower level of Stauffer Library. Government Documents reference assistance is available Monday to Friday, 2-4 p.m. or by appointment.

For information about the government of Quebec, go to: www.gouv.qc.ca/portail/quebec/pgs/commun?lang=en

**TASK:** Construct searches to find information on neo-nationalism and secessionism.

### Search Journal Indexes to Find Articles

→ America: History and Life: 1954 - present  
→ CPI.Q (Canadian Periodicals): 1977- present

Expand your search by trying these!  
- Humanities & Social Sciences Retrospective Index, 1907-1984  
- PAIS International, 1915-  
- Humanities Abstracts, 1984-  
- Religion Database, 1949-  
- Social Sciences Abstracts, 1983-  
- Canadian Reference Centre, date range varies  
- Academic Search Complete, 1885-  
- Francis, 1984-

To search indexes, click: **Articles** under **Research Tools**  
Click on the letter and browse the list or type the desired database title in the search box.

### Search America: History and Life

*America: History and Life* contains journal citations, with abstracts, to articles about all aspects of Canadian and U.S. history, culture, government, international relations... from pre-historic times to the present.

Search in **Keywords:** second world war and quebec  
Modify to search in **Subject Terms:** world war II and quebec

To find out if Queen’s subscribes to the journal, click **Get It! @ Queen’s.**

If the articles are not full text, note the citation information before you search QCAT. Record the location and call number for each volume you need.

**TASK:** Search for citations dealing with the October Crisis and the War Measures Act.
**Search for Theses**

To find theses, check the Finding Theses guide by clicking on:

- Resources by Subject → Theses

To find theses at Queen's, search for your keywords and add the terms, **thesis**

"quiet revolution" and **quebec** and **thesis**

**Request an Interlibrary Loan**

Use interlibrary loan (ILL) to obtain loans or copies of items that Queen's libraries do not own. From Library Services, click Interlibrary Loan, then RACER.

For more information, consult the brochure: **RACER, Our Interlibrary Loan System**.

**Search the Web**

Check our Search the Web guide at: library.queensu.ca/inforef/guides/www.htm

1. Check the following websites:
   - **CBC Archive** archives.cbc.ca/
   - **Library and Archives Canada** www.collectionscanada.gc.ca

2. Check the websites listed on the History Subject Guide:
   - Research Tools → Resources by Subject → History → Websites

3. Use the search engine, **Google**, for precise natural language searching or **Google Scholar** as a gateway for academic Web searching:

   ![Google Advanced Search](www.google.ca/advanced_search?hl=en)

   **Google Advanced Search** offers a variety of ways to structure a more precise search and to improve the efficiency of your search results. For academic sites, enter in the domain field, e.g.: .edu, .ac.uk, .mcgill.ca.

   ![Google Scholar Beta](scholar.google.ca/)
About Google Scholar

Google Scholar is Google’s scholarly search engine that searches for scholarly materials including journal articles, theses, books, preprints, abstracts and technical reports from broad areas of research. It searches a variety of academic publishers, professional societies, preprint repositories and universities, as well as scholarly articles available across the Web.

Scholar Preferences

Click on Scholar Preferences to view several preferences you can set. When searching Google Scholar from on-campus, the Library Links preference will already be set to allow for the Get It! at Queen’s service (this service links citations in research databases to full text articles or to the Library Catalogue or to other related web services provided by Queen’s University Library).

When off-campus, search Google Scholar through the web proxy to activate Get It! @ Queens links to full text.

Evaluate Websites

Anyone can create a web page; so it is particularly important to analyze and assess information that you can find on the Web before using it in a research paper. Go to our Evaluating Web Information page located under the link, How-To for a checklist of points to consider when analyzing a web page.

Check out our guide, Develop a Research Strategy, by going to:

Help → How-To… → Write Essays → Develop a Research Strategy

Cite Sources

Check our Citation and Style Guides page at:

Research Tools → more… → 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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