

Europe and the Creation of the Atlantic World

Research Strategy for History 319

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Library Web Page → library.queensu.ca

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Consider Resources

Primary Resources: letters, speeches, newspaper articles, government documents

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

Check the subject guides for history resources:

[Research Tools](#) → [Resources by Subject](#) → [History](#) → [British History](#)
[European History](#)

Use specialized encyclopedias, dictionaries, guides, and textbooks to identify who, what, where, how and why, for example:

A Historical Guide to World Slavery REF HT861 .H59 1998

The Historical Encyclopedia of World Slavery REF HT861 .H57 1997

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

Current journals are shelved alphabetically by title in the periodicals area on the second floor of Stauffer. **Microfilm** copies of a journal are shelved by call number in the Microforms area on the lower level of Stauffer. **Bound** journals are shelved by call number on the second floor (first and second rows).

Cohn, Raymond L. "Deaths of Slaves in the Middle Passage," *Journal of Economic History* 45 (1985): 685-92.

Mitchell, Memory F. "Off to Africa - with Judicial Blessing," *North Carolina Historical Review* 53 (1976): 265-87.

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 economics of the Atlantic slave trade, try this search:

"atlantic slave trade" **and** economics **Search by:** Keyword Boolean

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

"slave trade" **and** (africa **or** america **or** britain **or** europe)
(slavery **or** "slave trade") **and** (commerce **or** economics)

Search by Subject

Relevant subject headings for this topic:

Slave trade--Great Britain

Slave trade--America

Slavery--America--History

Slavery--West Indies

Slavery--Economic aspects--United States

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

Great Britain--Commerce--History--18th century

Great Britain--History--18th century

Great Britain--Colonies

Great Britain--Economic conditions--18th century

Great Britain--Politics and government--1837-1901

Note the standard sub-divisions!

Find Primary Sources

Research Tools → **Resources by Subject** → **Primary Sources**

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

Primary sources include 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.

1. Use QCAT

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...**:

britain **and** ("slave trade" or slavery) **and** sources
slave? **and** (africa or america or "united states") **and** (diaries or correspondence)

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

Slave trade--Great Britain--History--Sources
Slavery--United States--Personal narratives

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:

Wilberforce, William

Look up groups or organizations as an author (or subject), e.g. Royal African Company

2. Use Journal and Newspaper Indexes Covering the Time Period

Newspapers are a good source of primary information. To find out what we have, search QCAT by newspaper title, e.g. Times, or search the catalogue by subject heading:

london england newspapers

Journals and magazines published at the time are another type of primary source. Check out the following electronic resources which are available via Research Databases.

The Times of London

Full text from 1785 to 1985.

Early English Books Online (EEBO)

EEBO provides access to over 125,000 volumes of early works (between 1474 and 1700) printed in English.

Eighteenth Century Collections Online

Access to digital images of every significant English-language and foreign-language title printed in the United Kingdom during the eighteenth century.

Eighteenth Century Journals: a Portal to Newspapers and Periodicals, c1685-1815

Some specialized primary sources on the slave trade include:

British Transatlantic Slave Trade. 4 volumes
HT1162.B75 2003

Anti-Slavery Collection, 18th-19th centuries
HT857.A58 1978+ (SL Microfilms) plus guide in Reference collection and on Reserve.

Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade CD-ROM

This database contains the records of over 27,000 slave trade voyages between the years 1527 to 1866. Contact Jeff Moon, Government Documents, for assistance on using this statistical database, especially if you want to access the raw data.

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.

TASK: In what ways did Enlightenment thinking influence the American Revolution?

Search Journal Indexes to Find Articles

- Historical Abstracts: 1954 - (covers world history from 1450 to present)
- America: History and Life: 1954 - (U.S. and Canada from prehistoric to present)

Also try these indexes! Humanities & Social Sciences Index Retrospective, 1907-1984
 Academic Search Complete, 1885 - present
 ATLA Religion Database, 1949 - present

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 Historical Abstracts

Search in Keywords: haitian revolution
Modify to search in Subject Terms: haiti **and** (revolution **or** rebellions **or** slavery)

Does Queen's Library have the article? Click **Get It! @ Queen's** to see if we do!

If we do not have an online subscription to the journal, note the citation information before you search QCAT. If we have a print subscription to the journal, record the location and call number for each volume you need. If we do not have either a print or online copy of the article you need, you can request it through Interlibrary Loan.

Also try searching this bibliography!

Bibliography of British and Irish History Online www.rhs.ac.uk/bibwel.asp

The Royal Historical Society bibliography is a guide to writing on British and Irish history from the Roman period to the present day.

TASK: Find articles on the relationship between Enlightenment thought and abolitionism.

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:

American Memory memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html

Born in Slavery: Slave Narratives
memory.loc.gov/ammem/snhtml/snhome.html

From Slavery to Freedom : the African American Pamphlet Collection 1822-1901
memory.loc.gov/ammem/aaphtml/aapchome.html

Documenting the American South docsouth.unc.edu/

Bibliography in Atlantic History www.fas.harvard.edu/~atlantic/atlanbib.html

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:

 **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.



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. 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.

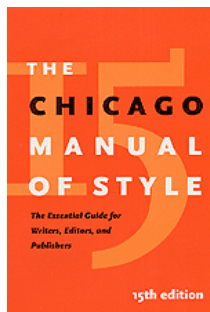
Check out our guide, *Develop a Research Strategy*, by going to:

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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