Research Resources for Graduate Students in Cultural Studies
Fall 2015

Librarian for Cultural Studies: Sylvia Andrychuk andrychs@queensu.ca

Queen’s University Library Homepage: http://library.queensu.ca

Services for Graduate Students: http://library.queensu.ca/services/grads

Off-Campus Access https://login.proxy.queensu.ca/login
Access to the Library’s electronic subscriptions (e-books, e-journals, indexes and databases) is restricted to current Queen’s students, faculty and staff. When connecting from off-campus, sign in with your NetID.

Research by Subject http://library.queensu.ca/research/subjects
Library research guides for every discipline at Queen’s, as well as specialized guides to specific types/formats of information including Videos, Theses, Data and Newspapers.

Cultural Studies Research Guide: http://library.queensu.ca/research/guide/cultstud

Library Homepage http://library.queensu.ca
Queen’s Library Collections

There are six campus libraries in five physical locations:

**Stauffer Library** (Business, Humanities and Social Science, Art Collection)
Maps, Data, and Government Information (Stauffer library, lower level)
Queen’s Learning Commons - [http://www.queensu.ca/qlc/graduate-students](http://www.queensu.ca/qlc/graduate-students)

Bracken Health Sciences Library
Education Library
Lederman Law Library
Engineering and Science (Douglas Library)
W.D. Jordan Special Collections and Music Library (Douglas Library)

Resources for Background Information

Consult specialized encyclopedias or dictionaries to get a broad overview of a subject, a concise overview of a concept, school of thought or person. Some reference works that are particularly useful for Cultural Studies are:

**Dictionaries**

The Blackwell Dictionary of Modern Social Thought
The Columbia Dictionary of Modern Literary and Cultural Criticism
A Dictionary of Critical Theory
Dictionary of Cultural and Critical theory

**Bibliographies**

Use bibliographies to find comprehensive lists of sources on a specific topic or a selective list of key works on a topic.

Oxford Bibliographies
International Bibliography of the Social Sciences
The Year’s Work in Critical and Cultural Theory
This journal provides annotated bibliographies to published works in the field of critical and cultural theory.

Companions
Companion to Cultural Studies ed. Toby Miller

**Encyclopedias and Major Online Reference Tools**

Blackwell Reference Online
With more than 380 reference volumes available, and dozens more added each year, it is the largest social science and humanities reference collection available online.

Oxford Reference Online
The *Oxford Reference Online* collection is a large, comprehensive resource covering the complete subject spectrum. It contains the full-text of approximately 120 dictionaries, companions and other reference works published by Oxford University Press.
**Summon**

Search across the library catalogue and many of our electronic resources, from one search box. Summon contains everything found in the traditional QCAT Library Catalogue, plus millions of full-text articles available from the Library. Can be a very useful search tool for interdisciplinary topics.

After performing a search, use the facets along the left-hand side to refine or limit your search results.

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**Library Catalogue (QCAT)**

Search the library catalogue (QCAT) to find materials (such as books, videos, journals, newspapers and government documents) available, in print and online, at Queen’s University Library.
Electronic Books

Most of the library’s electronic books are listed in QCAT and Summon, but you may also search the e-book packages directly: [http://library.queensu.ca/research/ebooks/](http://library.queensu.ca/research/ebooks/). Please note that when searching e-book collections directly you may encounter titles in the collection to which Queen’s does not have access. You can request a print copy of the title through interlibrary loan (RACER).

Collections of note for cultural studies include:

- **ebrary** [http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/5298](http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/5298)
  Search and browse access to the full-text of books from scholarly publishers.

- **e-Duke Books Scholarly Collection** [http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/7969](http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/7969)
  Selected frontlist and backlist titles published by Duke University Press.

- **MyiLibrary** [http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/3422](http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/3422)
  Cover-to-cover search and browse access to the full-text of books from various academic publishers.

- **Scholars Portal Books** [http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/8746](http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/8746)
  Large multidisciplinary collection of ebooks from various publishers.

- **Social Theory** [http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/3378](http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/3378)
  Full-text e-book collection of influential writings representing the most important trends of sociological thought. Included in the more than 150,000 pages of searchable content are works by such theorists as Max Weber, Karl Marx, Emile Durkheim, Michel Foucault and Jean Baudrillard and many more. Time coverage: 18th century - present.
Finding Articles: Article Indexes and Databases

Search indexes and databases to find journal articles, citations to books, theses, conference proceedings and more. The library subscribes to over 650 article indexes and databases and over 80,000 electronic journals and newspapers.

Each academic discipline has its own specialized article indexes, which index the core literature of that discipline (and often relevant topics from related-disciplines). Library research guides list recommended databases in particular fields, and are available for every discipline at Queen’s. For an interdisciplinary field like Cultural Studies, in addition to the library research guide for Cultural Studies, you will undoubtedly want to consult the library research guide for your area of interest (e.g. Art, Film, Gender Studies, Literature, Political Studies, Sociology, etc.).

Accessing Indexes and Databases

You can access article indexes and databases from the Cultural Studies Research Guide: http://library.queensu.ca/research/guide/cultstud/article-indexes or use the Databases Tab on the library homepage, where you can enter the name of the database you wish to search, or browse databases by subject through More Database Options:

![The Databases tab on the library homepage]

There are many indexes and databases relevant to Cultural Studies. The best databases to search vary depending on your specific research area.

Multidisciplinary Databases:

**Academic Search Complete** [http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/3404]
A multi-disciplinary index (with abstracts) to more than 10,900 publications including peer-reviewed journals, popular magazines, conference proceedings, monographs and reports.

**Arts @ ProQuest** [http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/8903]
A pre-selected group of 11 citation, abstract and full-text databases covering literature published in the arts. Each database can be searched separately but they also can be searched as a group, from this starting point.

**IBSS: International Bibliography of the Social Sciences** [http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/2984]
Social science and interdisciplinary research index to international literature.
Social Sciences @ ProQuest [http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/8908]
Comprehensive coverage of literature published in the social sciences disciplines. This database allows you to simultaneously search over 25 social science article databases.

Sociology @ ProQuest [http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/8917]

Indexes to Non-Mainstream Publications

Alternative Press Index [http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/5129]
Interdisciplinary index to alternative, radical and left periodicals, newspapers and magazines.

An interdisciplinary, bilingual (English and Spanish) and comprehensive full text database of newspapers, magazines and journals from ethnic, minority and native presses.

Search Engines

Google Scholar [http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/2998]
Use the Google Scholar search engine to locate materials from a wide variety of academic publishers, professional societies, preprint repositories and universities, as well as scholarly articles published on the "open" web.

By searching Google Scholar through the Queen’s web proxy (using the link provided above) the “Get It at Queen’s” citation linker is activated (which allows you to click directly through to the Library’s subscriptions).

To activate when going directly to Google Scholar [https://scholar.google.ca/], click on Settings >> Library Links >> select Queen’s University Library at Kingston Canada >> Save

Strategies for Effective Database Searching:

- Start your search with the obvious keywords or search terms. Also think of synonyms, alternate spellings, other terms or phrases to express the same concepts.
- Each database has different syntax requirements. Consult the “Help” or “Search Tips” section to get the most out of your searches.
- Most research databases have direct links to full-text if we subscribe to the journal. Use GetIt@Queens to follow links to the text of an article or to QCAT (library catalogue). In QCAT use the “Journal Title Exact” option to check if Queen’s Library subscribes to the publication.
- Print, save or email your search results and articles.
- Import your citations to a citation management program (such as RefWorks) to manage your research results.
Summon [http://library.queensu.ca/summon](http://library.queensu.ca/summon)

The Library’s search engine which contains everything found in the traditional QCAT Library Catalogue, plus millions of full-text articles available from the Library.

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**Citation Indexes: Cited Reference Searching**

Citation indexes allow you to trace the evolution of an idea from one author’s paper backward using its bibliography and forward (to determine who is citing whom) using cited reference searching. Consult the library guide to conducting a cited reference search: [Cited Reference Searching in the Social Sciences and Humanities](http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/2697) for details. Google Scholar and discipline-specific databases provide links to cited references within their databases; the databases listed below specialize in cited reference searching:

- **Arts and Humanities Citation Index**: [http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/2697](http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/2697)
- **Social Sciences Citation Index**: [http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/2927](http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/2927)

For **Journal Citation Reports**, consult: JCR [http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/2811](http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/2811)

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**Queen’s Library Journal Collections**

Individual journal titles (but not the articles within them) are listed in QCAT. When you know the title of a journal you are looking for, perform a journal title search in QCAT to determine its location (either in print, on the 2nd floor of Stauffer library, or online).

Alternatively, search for the name of the journal from the **Journals A-Z** tab on the library homepage:

[![Journals A-Z tab on the library homepage](http://example.com)](http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/2697)

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**Current Awareness: Journal Alerts**

Alerting, current awareness or table of contents services are designed to assist researchers in keeping up-to-date with current literature in a discipline. A number of databases and collections of electronic journals provide automated alerting services based on your search profile or search strategy. Depending on the service, it may provide you with tables of contents of your chosen journals, or a list of individual article citations, e-mailed directly to your e-mail account. Look for an option to create an alert on the publisher’s platform of the journal of interest. For example, on the Sage platform one can set up an alert for the journal Cultural Studies Critical Methodologies:
Access journal via QCAT, journal title exact search. If available, follow link to publisher’s platform. Look for alerting options.

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**Primary Source Collections**

The Library subscribes to a considerable number of specialized digital primary source collections, including:

**Black Thought and Culture** [http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/3083](http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/3083)

*Black Thought and Culture* contains 1,297 sources with 1,098 authors, covering the non-fiction published works of leading African Americans. Where possible the complete published non-fiction works are included, as well as interviews, journal articles, speeches, essays, pamphlets, letters and other fugitive material.

**Defining Gender, 1450-1910** [http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/3957](http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/3957)

Collection of original source material from British and European archives, particularly useful for those studying history, literature, sociology, education and cultural studies from a gendered perspective.

**Underground and Independent Comics, Comixs and Graphic Novels** [http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/8356](http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/8356)

The first ever scholarly, primary source database focusing on adult comic books and graphic novels.

**Women and Social Movements in the United States 1600 -2000** [http://library.queensu.ca./research/databases/record/3093](http://library.queensu.ca./research/databases/record/3093)

Covers a wide range of primary and secondary documents, a dictionary of social movements and organizations, a chronology of U.S. women's history, as well as images and links to other websites.

A complete list of collections for the humanities and social sciences can be found at: [http://library.queensu.ca/inforef/ebooks.htm](http://library.queensu.ca/inforef/ebooks.htm)
Films

Locating Videos (DVDs/VHS/Streaming Online)

In QCAT, perform a keyword or keyword Boolean search on your topic and limit results to Videos/DVDs/Streaming video. The multimedia collection in Stauffer is located on the main floor, behind the Reference Collection.

Keyword Boolean search limited to Videos/DVDs/Streaming video

Online Subscription Resources
Queen’s Library subscribes to several online video collections, including:

Criterion on Demand http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/11652
An online digital delivery feature film system. Users may stream or download from a selection of over 2900 films ranging from classic film, documentaries, international film, North American feature films, cult classics, and more.

Curio.ca http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/10851
Streaming video content from the CBC and Radio Canada, including documentaries, news broadcasts and archival material.

NFB.ca http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/6036
Access to documentaries, animation and alternative dramas in streaming video, as well as NFB playlists, upcoming films and other related resources.

Films on Demand http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/10558
Humanities and Social Sciences collection.

The library research guide for Film & Media Studies http://library.queensu.ca/research/guide/film-media and Drama http://library.queensu.ca/research/guide/drama are also useful resources.

News Resources

Queen’s Library subscribes to local, regional, national and international news databases. These databases provide significant date coverage (unlike the free news sites on the web) and allow for a variety of search capabilities ideal for academic-level research. Consult the guide to major news indexes and full-text news resources at Queen’s Library: http://guides.library.queensu.ca/newspapers.
Research Methods

Using keyword or a Boolean keyword search, search QCAT for books on a specific research method. The following books are particularly relevant to conducting research in Cultural Studies:

Doing Research in Cultural Studies (ebook, print)
Research Methods for Cultural Studies (print)
Research Practice for Cultural Studies (ebook)
Research Methods for Cultural Studies (free online)

The Library also subscribes to a specialized research methods database:

Sage Research Methods Online http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/8416
This database “provides the most comprehensive picture available today of research methods (quantitative, qualitative and mixed methods) across the social and behavioural sciences” and published by Sage.

Maps, Data, & Government Information (Stauffer library, lower level)

Government Information http://library.queensu.ca/gov
There are more than 1,000,000 print items in the government and international documents collection, in addition to the large sections of the collection available only in microform and electronic format. Our holdings emphasize Canadian, American, United Kingdom and international documents, with smaller collections for Commonwealth and other foreign countries. The Library is an official depository for publications of the Government of Canada, the Province of Ontario, the European Union, and the United Nations.

Data Services http://library.queensu.ca/data
Data is frequently acquired in electronic format and made available through the services of the Social Sciences Data Centre within the Documents area in Stauffer Library. Data resources of note include: Statistics Canada (via the Depository Services Program and the Data Liberation Initiative), polling data from the Canadian Opinion Research Archive (housed in Stauffer Library), and US and International data from the International Consortium for Political and Social Science Research.

Maps and Geospatial Data http://library.queensu.ca/geo/

Theses and Dissertations

Queen’s theses published since 2007 are deposited in QSpace, the Queen’s University Research and Learning Repository (https://qspace.library.queensu.ca/) and may be downloaded free of charge.

Consult the library’s Guide to Finding Theses and Dissertations for a list of theses and dissertations databases and Open Access Repositories:
Preparing your own thesis: [http://library.queensu.ca/help/theses](http://library.queensu.ca/help/theses)

Citation Management [http://guides.library.queensu.ca/citation-management](http://guides.library.queensu.ca/citation-management)

Citation and Style Guides [http://library.queensu.ca/help/cite-sources](http://library.queensu.ca/help/cite-sources)

Borrowing Privileges, Interlibrary Loan and Other Library Catalogues

Graduate Student Borrowing Privileges
- various loan periods including *term loan* (subject to recall)
- may borrow an *unlimited number of books*, subject to recall
- *inter-university borrowing privileges* [http://library.queensu.ca/services/borrowing/reciprocal](http://library.queensu.ca/services/borrowing/reciprocal)

When the book or article you need is not available at Queen’s Library
For books and articles not owned by Queen’s Library, request items through Interlibrary Loans (RACER): [http://library.queensu.ca/services/interlibrary/racer](http://library.queensu.ca/services/interlibrary/racer).

Other Library Catalogues
Searching library collections beyond Queen’s? A list of other library catalogues can be found here: [http://library.queensu.ca/research/catalogues](http://library.queensu.ca/research/catalogues)

WorldCat (short for World Catalogue) [http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/2918](http://library.queensu.ca/research/databases/record/2918) and Google Book Search ([https://books.google.ca/](https://books.google.ca/) ) are excellent tools for discovering other books on your topic. Request item(s) through RACER.

Queen’s University Library is also a member of the Center for Research Libraries [http://www.crl.edu/](http://www.crl.edu/). The CRL catalogue is located at [http://catalog.crl.edu/](http://catalog.crl.edu/). CRL materials can be requested through RACER (on the RACER request form, note that the item is at CRL).