

Library Resource Guide

Website: <http://www.bowlinggreen.kctcs.edu/lrc/>

Phone: 270-901-1026 | Fax: 270-901-1137 | Email: bg-libraryinfo@kctcs.edu

History: American

LIBRARY CATALOGS

Bowling Green Technical College Library: <http://opac.kctcs.edu> (Limit search to **Bowling Green TC**)
Bowling Green Public Library <http://catalog.bgpl.org/>
Western Kentucky University Libraries TOPCAT: <http://topcat2000.wku.edu/>

Materials can be borrowed from WKU Libraries and delivered to the BGTC library.
Submit the [BGTC/WKU Library Book Service Form](#) on the library's website to staff at the Help Desk.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS (LC) CALL NUMBERS

Look for the call numbers listed below on the library shelves to find print and audio-visual materials on the following subjects:

HISTORY OF THE AMERICAS: E

POLITICAL SCIENCE: J

HISTORY OF THE AMERICAS: F
(Divided into local history by state. For example Kentucky history can be found in the call numbers F446 – F460.)

JK Political institutions & public administration in the United States

Library of Congress Classification System is available at: <http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpsolcco/>

SUBJECT HEADINGS

Use the subject headings listed below when searching a library catalog for materials:

- To search by an historic or a political person: (last name, first name)
Example: Lincoln, Abraham
- African Americans—Civil rights
- African Americans—History
- Cold War
- Constitutional history—United States
- Cuban Missile Crisis, 1962
- Depressions—1929—United States
- Indians of North America—History
- Iraq war, 2003
- Kentucky-History
- New Deal, 1933-1939
- Presidents—United States
- Reconstruction
- Secession
- Slavery
- United States—History
- United States—History—Civil War, 1861-1865
- United States—History—Dictionaries
- United States—History—Encyclopedias
- United States—History—Military policy
- United States—History—Revolution, 1775-1783
- United States—History—1919-1933
- Vietnamese Conflict, 1961-1975
- Weapons of mass destruction
- World War, 1914-1918
- World War, 1938-1945

REFERENCE AND CIRCULATING RESOURCES

It is important to get an overview of a topic so you have a general understanding of the issue. Background information may include: the history of a subject, facts, statistics, key terms, and the names of significant people in the field. Sources for background information include: encyclopedias, dictionaries, almanacs and other materials shelved in the Reference Collection or available online.

Check the library catalog at <http://opac.kctcs.edu> for a complete listing, including circulating materials.

The following items are located in the **Reference Collection** and are for in-library use only:

- The 50 States E 180 A15 2000
- American First Ladies E 176.2 A4 2006
- American Presidents (2 vols.) E 176.1 A6563 2006
- Civil War America 1850 To 1875 E 468 S45 2006
- Cold War America 1946 To 1990 E 741 G76 2002
- Colonial America To 1765 E 188 P86 1999
- Dictionary of American History (10 vols.) E 174 D52 2003
- The Eighties in America (2 vols.) E876 E347 2008
- Encyclopedia of American History (11 vols.) E 174 E53 2002
- Encyclopedia of American Government (4 vols.) JK 9 E52 1998
- Encyclopedia of the American Revolutionary War (5 vols.) E 208 E64 2006
- Encyclopedia of the Confederacy (4 vols.) E 48755 1993
- Encyclopedia of the Great Depression (2 vols.) E 806 E63 2004
- Encyclopedia of World War I (5 vols.) D 510 E53 2005
- Encyclopedia of World War II (4 vols.) D 740 E516 2005
- The Fifties in America (3 vols.) E 169.12 F 498 2005
- Global Perspectives on the United States (2 vols.) E 895 G 56 2007
- Immigration in U.S. History (2 vols.) JV 6450 1565 2006
- Major Acts of Congress (3 vols.) FK 154 M35 2004
- Modern America 1914 To 1945 E 766 G67 1995
- Revolutionary America E 162 P86 1994
- The Seventies in America (3 vols.) E 169.12 S447 2006
- The Sixties in America (3 vols.) E 841 S55 1999
- Victorian America 1876 To 1913 E 168 S55 1996

PERIODICALS

- American Heritage
- Civil War Times
- History Today
- Military History
- National Geographic
- Newsweek

MULTIMEDIA (DVDS)

- African American Lives RA 1057.55 A37530 2006
- America Rebuilds (9/11)*
- Amistad PN 1997 A3434 1999
- Combat Diary: The Marines of Lima Company*
- The Congress JK 1021 C66 2004
- Flags of Our Fathers D 743.23.F53 2007
- Ghosts of Mississippi PN 1997 G447 2000
- Hacking Democracy*
- Heart of Darkness: The Vietnam War Chronicles, 1945-1975 DS 559.5.H43 2006
- Huey Long E 748 L86 H85 2004
- Lewis & Clark: The Journey of the Corps of Discovery*
- Mississippi Burning PN 1995.9.N4 M5 2001
- Saving Private Ryan PN 1997 S19 1999
- Statue of Liberty F 128.64 L6 S73 1985
- The Story of Elizabeth Cady Stanton & Susan B. Anthony HQ 1412 W36 2004
- Thirteen Days (Cuban Missile Crisis) E 841.C48 T4 40 2001
- Thomas Jefferson E 332 T46 2004
- The Tuskegee Airmen PN 1997.T835 2004
- Unforgivable Blackness: The Rise and Fall of Jack Johnson GV 1132 J6 U540 2005
- We Were Soldiers (Vietnam War) PN 1997 W49 2002
- When The Levees Broke (Hurricane Katrina) HV 636 2005.L8.W54 2006

**Please see a library staff person for these titles.*

Check the library catalog for additional multimedia materials on history.

Databases (use these to find indexed, full-text journals and magazine articles)

CREDO reference

<http://www.credoreference.com>

Features content from hundreds of popular reference books on a broad range of subjects: Art, Biography, Business, Dictionaries, Food & Drink, Geography, History, Languages, Law, Literature, Medicine, Music, Philosophy & Psychology, Religion, Science, Social Sciences and Technology. Provides **APA** and **MLA** citation style formats.

CREDO reference History Subject Guide:

http://corp.credoreference.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=2147&Itemid=115

Gale

<http://find.galegroup.com/menu/commonmenu.do?userGroupName=kctcsbgtc>

(Off Campus use <https://216.69.39.58/login>)

Databases: **Academic OneFile**, **Health Reference Center Academic**, **Expanded Academic ASAP**, **Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center**, **Health and Wellness Resource Center**.

Provides extensive coverage of peer-reviewed, full-text articles from journals, magazines, newspapers, reference materials and multimedia sources. Provides citation information in **APA** and **MLA** styles.

Kentucky Virtual Library (KYVL)

<http://www.kyvl.org>

(Available Off Campus—Contact library for current *Username & Password*)

Resources: **EBSCOhost**, **Grolier Encyclopedias** (Encyclopedia Americana), **ProQuest**, **Kentuckiana Digital Library** and **Kentucky Statistics**.

Click on the link, [Find Books, Articles, and More](#), to connect directly to a database.

The following databases may be of interest to English students and are available through EBSCOhost: **Academic Search Premier**, **Sociological Collection**, **Newspaper Source**, **Master FILE Premier**, **TOPICsearch**.

NetLibrary (Electronic Books)

<http://www.netlibrary.com>

(Available Off Campus—Must create a free account on campus first.)

Provides full-text access to hundreds of fiction and nonfiction ebooks of interest to students studying history. These ebooks are listed in the BGTC Library Catalog and are indicated by the words, [electronic resource], following the book's title in the catalog listing.

WEBSITE RESOURCES

- **Best of History Websites:** <http://www.besthistorysites.net/USHistory.shtml>
Excellent and comprehensive list of history websites covering topics on Native Americans, African Americans, women, government and immigration. Categorizes websites according to different periods in American history.
- **Digital History:** <http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/>
This is an educational site designed specifically for history teachers and their students. Includes an up-to-date U.S. history textbook; annotated primary sources on United States, Mexican American, and Native American history, and slavery.
- **History Matters:** <http://historymatters.gmu.edu/>
Designed for high school and college teachers and students. History Matters serves as a gateway to web resources and offers other useful materials for teaching U.S. history.
- **Library of Congress:** <http://www.loc.gov/index.html>

An outstanding and invaluable site for American history and general studies. Contains primary and secondary documents, exhibits, map collections, prints and photographs, sound recordings and motion pictures. Click on the links *American Memory* and *Exhibitions* for historical information and *Thomas* for legislative historical and current information

- **PBS:** <http://www.pbs.org/history/>
A great source for information on a myriad of historical events and personalities.
- **The September 11 Digital Archive:** <http://911digitalarchive.org/>
The September 11 Digital Archive uses electronic media to collect, preserve, and present the history of the September 11, 2001 attacks in New York, Virginia, and Pennsylvania and the public responses to them. A tremendous resource for first-hand accounts.
- **Smithsonian Museum American Presidency:**
http://americanhistory.si.edu/presidency/3_frame.html
Website links to a variety of resources about the American Presidency.
- **The Valley of the Shadow:**
<http://www.vcdh.virginia.edu/teaching/vclassroom/vclasscontents.html>
The Valley of the Shadow depicts two communities, one Northern (Franklin County, Pennsylvania) and one Southern (Augusta County, Virginia), through the experience of the American Civil War.

EVALUATION & CITATION

The Kentucky Virtual Library (KYVL) has tutorials on how to do research at

<http://www.kyvl.org/html/tutorial/research/>.

Provides assistance with *Evaluating Information*, *Searching the Web* and *Citing Sources*.

Evaluate all information carefully. Websites present additional challenges. Use the evaluation criteria below to determine the quality of information sources.

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|
| #1: Authority | (who's responsible?) |
| #2: Accuracy | (is this for real?) |
| #3: Objectivity | (what's the bottom line?) |
| #4: Currency | (how timely is this?) |
| #5: Coverage | (what's included? excluded?) |

A good researcher uses a standard citation format to identify the information used and give credit to its creator. Consistency is crucial.

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