

Seven Databases for Effective History Students

Secondary Sources Edition

Highly

<p>America: History and Life (and / or Historical Abstracts) http://lis.dickinson.edu/Library/LISDatabases/index.cfm America: History & Life provides abstracts or now in some cases full text access to selected journals, popular historical magazines and dissertations that focus on subjects in American history. Historical Abstracts offers a similar service for non-US historical sources. Both are essential for serious research.</p>	
<p>American National Biography Online http://envoy.dickinson.edu:2903/articles/index.html ANB stands as the premier biographical reference source in the field of American history. There are more than 17,000 signed essays on figures from throughout the national past. The entries also provide hypertext links to other related figures and also bibliographic essays to guide further research.</p>	
<p>JSTOR http://envoy.dickinson.edu:2115/ JSTOR offers full-text access to articles from leading academic journals in numerous fields over the last one hundred-plus years. There are over 165 historical titles, including the American Historical Review (AHR) and Journal of American History (JAH). The archives typically end about five years ago.</p>	
<p>Library Catalog http://dksn.sirsi.net/uhtbin/cgisirsi/tgYLPrt3dA/SIRSI/146670052/60/495/X The college library is the best starting point for research in books and selected types of articles. The catalog is digital, however, and can be used as a database, providing useful hypertext subject links at the bottom of each record to help identify related or supporting sources.</p>	
<p>ProQuest http://envoy.dickinson.edu:2075/login?COPT=U01EPTQmSU5UPTAmREJTPUcw This multidimensional database contains a wide variety of sources, but offers special access in its scholarly journals section to recent full-text issues of leading secondary sources not available in JSTOR or other alternatives.</p>	
<p>Project Muse http://envoy.dickinson.edu:2155/ Like ProQuest, Project Muse offers full-text access to some historical journals that are either not present in JSTOR or have not yet been made available in JSTOR because of its time span limitations. See especially the recent issues of Reviews in American History available through Muse.</p>	
<p>WorldCat (OCLC) http://lis.dickinson.edu/Library/LISDatabases/index.cfm Probably the world's largest bibliographic database with records covering more than 140 million books, WorldCat offers the best forum for identifying secondary sources not available in the Dickinson Library and provides tools for arranging loans through EZ-Borrow or ILLiad.</p>	

All of the databases listed above are available through the Dickinson College Library Database Finder <http://lis.dickinson.edu/Library/LISDatabases/index.cfm> or via the library's Delicious social bookmarking page <http://delicious.com/ws.library>. And remember, there are many other databases to explore at these sites.