Outline

Part I: Area of Exploration
  • background info
  • thinking about parameters

Part II: Identifying Search Tools
  • subject area
  • dates of coverage
  • types of publications

Part III: Use of Database Functionality
  • subjects
  • date limiters
  • fields & filters

Part IV: Access
  • full-text vs. citations
  • UC-eLinks, articles vs. books literature
Part I: Area of Exploration
Background Information

1. Course Readings & Discussion

2. Books e.g. specialized handbooks, encyclopedias

**CREDO** collection

- Encyclopedia of American Studies
- Encyclopedia of Violence, Peace, and Conflict
- The New Encyclopedia of the American West
- Contemporary Legal Issues: Encyclopedia of the American West
Thinking About Parameters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event(s)</th>
<th>Location(s)</th>
<th>Date / Time Period</th>
<th>Key Themes</th>
<th>Organizations / People</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

“Idle No More”
- website | search in Academic Search Complete

Interpretation of Indian treaties in the U.S.
- **Worcester v. Georgia**, Supreme court case 1832, other cases …
- search > sovereignty and indians

- Trail of Broken Treatises
Part II: Identifying Search Tools
Subjects

- Database tab > click “All Databases”
- Organized by Subjects
- star = recommended (filter)
- see summaries for more about a database

- Navigate to AnthroSource

- Anthropology
- Humanities
- History
- Political Science
- Sociology
Dates of Coverage
• databases may have limited date coverage or extensive coverage

Examples:
• JSTOR

Newspapers database search
• 19th Century U.S. Newspapers
• New York Times database search
Types of Publications

• primary or secondary sources?
• scholarly sources, news, narrative …?

Examples:

• North American Indian Thought and Culture
• Hispanic American Newspaper
• Anthropology Plus
• Melvyl
In Spite of our Best Searches

• We may consider subjects, coverage, publication types … yet we don’t get what we expect.

Search: “Trail of Broken Treatises”
  • Anthropology Plus
  • AnthroSource

What if this search doesn’t work? What other strategies should I take?

Strategies:
  • determine if it is a suitable search tool
    • History or political science database …. 
  • back-off from the specific to something about the concepts
    • sovereignty AND (native OR indigenous OR indian) AND treat*
Part III: Use of Database Functionality
Subjects
• language used to tag information
• Example: Melvyl

Date limiters
• most date limits are for publication date NOT event date
• Example: Historical Abstracts (an exception)

Fields & Filters/Limiters
• some databases have extensive fields, others are limited
• title field, subject field …
• Example: JSTOR
Part IV: Access
Full-Text vs. Citations (Index Only)

- AnthroSource
- Anthropology Plus
UC-eLinks (Books vs. Articles)

Articles
• may or may not resolve to full-text
• Use Request

Books or Book chapters
• recommend checking Melvyl before using Request

Examples
• CREDO
• Worldwide Political Science Abstracts
Contact

Sara Davidson Squibb
  • sdavidson2@ucmerced.edu
  • library offices suite (2nd floor by bookstacks)
  • 209-205-8237

UC Merced Library
ANTH 116 Library Guide (also in CatCourses)