

# Foundations of East Asian Civilizations

## Starting your Research

Talk to someone with specialized knowledge

Browse reference sources (*Read intro about how to use the source*)

*Follow bibliographies to articles & books*

## Reference Sources

The Reference section of the Knight Library is a good place to begin your research. Articles in specialized encyclopedias can provide an overview of a topic as well as experts' names and book and article titles for further reading. Search the library catalog for these authors, books, and journals. Since books are shelved by subject, look around on the nearby shelves for sources on similar topics.

***Encyclopedia of Asian History*** REFERENCE DS31 .E53 1988

A four-volume encyclopedia with alphabetical organization and a good index.

***China: A historical & cultural dictionary*** REFERENCE DS733 .C58523 1998

A one-volume encyclopedia with brief entries, some with footnotes for further research. It includes cross-references and a select bibliography.

***Kodansha Encyclopedia of Japan*** REFERENCE DS805.K633 1983

A somewhat dated, but still useful, nine-volume encyclopedia on all things Japanese.

***Encyclopedia of World Cultures*** REFERENCE GN307 .E53 1991

Multi-volume encyclopedia, volumes 5 and 6 cover East & Southeast Asia and Russia & Eurasia/China, respectively. Articles are organized by country and include bibliographies.

***Encyclopedia of Eastern Philosophy & Religion*** REFERENCE BL1005 .L4813 1994

A small encyclopedia with brief definitions of terms related to Buddhism, Hinduism, Taoism and Zen. Includes an extensive bibliography organized by religion/belief.

## Finding Books: *Library Catalog or Summit*

The library catalog can be used to search for books, videos, journal titles, etc. It allows searching by keyword, Library of Congress (LC) Subject Heading, title and author. *Note that catalogers choose the most specific subject headings possible for the book as a whole.* So, you might not find what you are looking for by using general headings. There may not be a specific LC Subject Heading for your topic. If you have trouble identifying the exact concept for which you are searching, try a keyword search. Try adding the word "sources" to a keyword search to find primary sources on your topic.

## Acquiring Books

❶ ***UO Library Catalog***

UO-owned books

Immediate access

Free

❷ ***Summit Catalog***

33 NW academic libraries

2-3 working days

Free

❸ ***WorldCat***

Thousands of libraries


1 Week to 10 days

Charges possible


## Finding Books: *Library Catalog or Summit*

Keyword	Search by key words describing your topic
Author	Last name first
Title	Use if you know a book's title
Subject	If you know the LC Subject Heading
Helpful Hints	Note the Location & Call # Note the Subject Headings in the records you find Search for other books with the same LC Subject Headings For books published before 1976, check the card catalog next

## Finding Article Citations: *Indexes & Abstracts*

Do not limit yourself to one database. Remember there are specialized indexes (print and electronic) for Asian studies, science, religion, women's studies, philosophy, ethnic studies, etc. linked from the library home page under Databases & Indexes <<http://libweb.uoregon.edu/>>. After finding a citation, use the find text button—— or search the library catalog to find out whether we have access to the journal online or in print.

*Bibliography of Asian Studies*: Indexes articles on Asian studies published 1971-present  
Search by progressively more specific Country-Subject  
Advanced search allows for combination of different fields such as author, title or subject

*Historical Abstracts*: Bibliography of world history (except US & Canada) 1450-present  
Available from UO Library Home Page → Databases & Indexes → History  
Combine search terms in various categories  
Keyword Use key words that describe your topic  
Subject Terms Use  (browse button) to find exact headings  
Document Type Limit by article, book, collection or dissertation  
Time Period Limit search by century or decade  
e.g. 1800H = 19<sup>th</sup> century, 1910D = 1910-1919

*Academic Search Premier* Includes citations on various topics from popular and scholarly journals  
Many of the articles are full text

## Web Sites

*Research by Subject: East Asian Studies*  
< <http://libweb.uoregon.edu/guides/intlstudies/easia.html>>  
*Research by Subject: World History*  
< <http://libweb.uoregon.edu/guides/history/worldhist.html>>  
*Research by Subject: Ancient History*  
< <http://libweb.uoregon.edu/guides/history/ancient.html>>

## Questions?

Feel free to ask at the Reference Desk or contact Heather Ward [hward@uoregon.edu](mailto:hward@uoregon.edu)