Cultural Beginnings FIG Research Tips:

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.

Civilization of the Ancient Mediterranean KNIGHT REFERENCE DE59 .C55 1988 A three-volume encyclopedia of extensive articles on Ancient Greece & Rome. Use the index in vol. 3 to track down specific topics.

Dictionary of the Middle Ages KNIGHT REFERENCE D114.D5 1982

A fourteen-volume encyclopedia of signed articles including cross references and bibliographies. Arranged alphabetically. Vol. 13 includes an extensive index. One of my favorite sources for beginning research on a medieval topic! We also own encyclopedias on other periods of time and by country.

Encyclopedia of Cultural Anthropology KNIGHT REFERENCE GN 307 .E52 1996 Explores topics on human cultural variation, cross-cultural comparison, holistic views of specific cultures, and ethnographic field work.

Oxford Companion to Archaeology [Online—linked from UO Library Catalog] Entries on a range of subjects, including biographies of the figures in the field, coverage of the methods used in archaeological research, essays that examine human evolution and many facets of culture.

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

UO Library Catalog
 UO-owned books

 Immediate access
 Free

Summit Catalog
 31 NW academic libraries
 2-3 working days
 Free

WorldCat
 Thousands of libraries
 1 Week to 10 days
 Charges possible

Finding Article Citations: Indexes & Abstracts

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

Anthropological Literature

Available from Library Home Page \rightarrow Databases & Indexes \rightarrow Anthropology/Archaeology Anthropological Literature indexes articles and essays in English and other European languages from the 19th century to the present, in all areas of anthropology and archaeology.

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

Web Sites

Research in Ancient History

http://libweb.uoregon.edu/guides/history/ancient.html

Research in Anthropology & Archaeology

http://libweb.uoregon.edu/guides/anthropology/

Research in Medieval Studies

http://libweb.uoregon.edu/guides/history/medieval.html

Research in World History

http://libweb.uoregon.edu/guides/history/worldhist.html

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