**BASIC STRATEGY FOR LIBRARY RESEARCH**   
**IN ANTHROPOLOGY**

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**STEP 1 - FIND BASIC INFORMATION**

This first step is designed to assist you in getting background information on a particular ethnic group, country, or region or to enhance your understanding of key ideas and concepts within the discipline of anthropology. Often people are tempted to skip this step and jump directly to books or periodicals. However, it is often more efficient to do background reading in encyclopedias and other reference books first. Musselman Library maintains a core collection of reference books that covers a wide range of topics and subject areas. The following are excellent sources of information on diverse ethnic groups located throughout the world, as well as key anthropological concepts.

*Where:* Most are available in the reference area, 1st Floor of Musselman Library

*Tip*: Start your research by looking in the Index of multi-volume reference materials.

**Reference Material on Diverse Ethnic Groups, Indigenous Peoples**

Ember, Melvin, and Carol R. Ember  
2001 Countries and Their Cultures. New York: Macmillan Reference USA.

**ELECTRONIC RESOURCE**

Fitzpatrick, Judith M.  
2001 Endangered Peoples of Oceania: Struggles to Survive and Thrive. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press.

**GN662 E53 2001**

Forward, Jean S.  
2000 Endangered Peoples of Europe: Struggles to Survive and Thrive. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press.

**D1056.2.E85 E63 2001**

Freeman, Milton M. R.  
2000 Endangered Peoples of the Arctic: Struggles to Survive and Thrive. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press.

**GN673 E72 2000**

Gall, Timothy L.  
1998 Worldmark Encyclopedia of Cultures and Daily Life. Detroit: Gale.

**REFERENCE GN333 W67 1998**

Greaves, Thomas C.  
2002 Endangered Peoples of North America: Struggles to Survive and Thrive. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press.

**E98.E85 E53 2002**

Hitchcock, Robert K., and Alan J. Osborn  
2002 Endangered Peoples of Africa and the Middle East: Struggles to Survive and Thrive. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press.

**GN635.N42 E53 2002**

Johansen, Bruce E.  
2003 Indigenous Peoples and Environmental Issues: An Encyclopedia. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press.

**REFERENCE GF50 J65 2003**

Levinson, David  
1991-1996 Encyclopedia of World Cultures. Boston, Mass.: G.K. Hall.

**REFERENCE GN307 E53 1991**

Price, David H.  
1989 Atlas of World Cultures: A Geographical Guide to Ethnographic Literature. Newbury Park, Calif.: Sage Publications.

**OVERSIZE G1046.E1 P7 1989**

Skutsch, Carl  
2005 Encyclopedia of the World’s Minorities. New York: Routledge .

**REFERENCE GN495.4 E63 2005**

Sponsel, Leslie E.  
2000 Endangered Peoples of Southeast and East Asia: Struggles to Survive and Thrive. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press.

**GN635.S58 E5 2000**

Stonich, Susan C.  
2001 Endangered Peoples of Latin America: Struggles to Survive and Thrive. Westport, Conn: Greenwood Press.

**E65 E57 2001**

**Reference Material on Anthropological Concepts and Theory**

Barfield, Thomas  
1997 The Dictionary of Anthropology. Cambridge, MA: Blackwell.

**REFERENCE GN307 D485**

Barnard, Alan, and Jonathan Spencer  
1997 Encyclopedia of Social and Cultural Anthropology. London, NY: Routledge.

**REFERENCE GN307 E525 1996**

Birx, James  
2006 Encyclopedia of Anthropology. Thousand Oaks, Calif.: Sage.

**REFERENCE GN11 E63 2006**

Kuper, Adam, and Jessica Kuper  
2008 The Social Science Encyclopedia. London: Routledge.

**IN PROCESS**

Levinson, David, and Melvin Ember  
1996 Encyclopedia of Cultural Anthropology. New York: Henry Holt.

**REFERENCE GN307 E52 1996**

Seymour- Smith, Charlotte  
1986 Dictionary of Anthropology. Boston: G.K. Hall.

**REFERENCE GN11 D48 1986**

Winthrop, Robert H.  
1991 Dictionary of Concepts in Cultural Anthropology. New York: Greenwood Press.

**REFERENCE GN307 W56 1991**

**Reference Material on Key Anthropologists**

Gaillard, Gerald  
2003 The Routledge Dictionary of Anthropologists. London : Routledge.

**REFERENCE GN20 G3513 2004**

Amit, Vered  
2004 Biographical Dictionary of Social and Cultural Anthropology. London, NY: Routledge.

**REFERENCE GN20 B56 2004**

**STEP 2 - FIND BOOKS**

By doing online research on [**MUSCAT**](http://library.gettysburg.edu/) and [**WorldCat**](http://www.gettysburg.edu/library/resources/db/splash/w/worldcat.dot), you can access a wealth of bibliographic information on relevant books, microforms, government documents, and audiovisual holdings. MUSCAT lists all of Musselman Library's holdings. WorldCat lists all books in existence (or at least those published in recent decades) and thus gives you a full view of what is out there--you may order anything you see on WorldCat from [**EZ-Borrow**](http://palci.library.pitt.edu/%7Eursa/GETTY_login.html) **or** [**ILL**](http://gettysburg.illiad.oclc.org/illiad/logon.html) **(Interlibrary Loan).**

*Where:* [**Musselman Library Homepage**](http://www.gettysburg.edu/library/index.dot), which can be accessed on any university computer (ask a reference librarian about connecting to MUSCAT or WorldCat from a non-university server)

**STEP 3 - FIND JOURNAL AND NEWSPAPER ARTICLES USING ONLINE PERIODICAL INDEXES**

If you are curious to see what kind of articles anthropologists are publishing, or if you need inspiration for a research topic, you can browse through the anthropology journals that we receive *in hard copy* at Musselman Library. Note that you can also access and read articles from many more journals that we receive in electronic format. For a full list of anthropology journals available to Gettysburg students in both hard-copy and electronic format go to the [**journal locator**](http://ll3ep3kc7k.search.serialssolutions.com/), and under "**Browse Journals by Subject Category**" select **Social Sciences,** and then **Search**. Then click on **Anthropology--General**.

*Where:* Periodical Section, 1st Floor (copies older than one year are stored in the basement)

Anthropology Journals in Musselman Library:  
 *American Anthropologist   
American Antiquity  
American Ethnologist   
American Journal of Physical Anthropology  
Annual Review of Anthropology  
Anthropological Quarterly   
Anthropology Today  
Archaeology   
Current Anthropology   
Ethnohistory   
Ethnology   
Ethnomusicology  
Ethnos  
Expedition  
Genders  
Human Ecology   
Human Organization  
Journal of Anthropological Research   
Journal of Contemporary Ethnography   
Journal of Material Culture  
Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute  
The SAA Archaeological Record   
Yearbook of Physical Anthropology*

**Journal Article Databases  
  
A. Scholarly Articles by Anthropologists:** To search for academic articles published by anthropologists you should access the following databases. These can be found by going to the [**Musselman Library homepage**](http://www.gettysburg.edu/library/index.dot), then select **Databases & Subject Guides,** then select **Anthropology**, then select **Anthropology Databases**. The articles listed in these databases are published in major journals and most can be accessed either full-text from the database or they can be found in Musselman Library, in the journals listed above. For articles that are not available by either of these two methods, copies can be requested through [**Interlibrary Loan**](http://gettysburg.illiad.oclc.org/illiad/logon.html)--a process that takes about a week.

* The single most valuable periodical index for anthropology majors is **ANTHROPOLOGICAL LITERATURE**, which is a database of anthropological articles and book chapters published in academic journals and edited volumes. ([**click here**](http://libguides.gettysburg.edu/content.php?pid=12691&sid=84937) for direct access)
* The second most useful periodical index for anthropology majors is **ACADEMIC SEARCH PREMIER**, which includes articles from the major anthropology journals as well as other social science journals. The downside of ACADEMIC SEARCH PREMIER is that indexed articles are not dated more than 10 to 15 years (unlike ANTHROPOLOGICAL LITERATURE), and the database does not include chapters from edited volumes. But the benefit of ACADEMIC SEARCH PREMIER is that many articles are available in full-text, which means you can obtain the article right then-and-there. [note: To get scholarly rather than popular articles, limit your search to peer-reviewed journals.] ([**click here**](http://libguides.gettysburg.edu/content.php?pid=12691&sid=84937)for direct access)
* Another good database is **SOCIAL SCIENCE ABSTRACTS**, which covers all social science journals and does not restrict itself to anthropology. This may be a particularly helpful database for those students doing an ethnographic project in the U.S.. ([**click here**](http://libguides.gettysburg.edu/content.php?pid=12691&sid=84956) for direct access)
* Another good database for anthropologists is **THE ANTHROPOLOGICAL INDEX ONLINE**. This database indexes many esoteric and hard-to-find articles on ethnic groups from around the world. [note: When you have arrived at the webpage, click on **"Quick Search of AIO"** then check off **"All Years"** and type in the name of the ethnic group or the topic you are researching]. ([**click here**](http://libguides.gettysburg.edu/content.php?pid=12691&sid=84937) for direct access)

**B. Review Articles by Anthropologists:** Another excellent source of information is **THE ANNUAL REVIEW OF ANTHROPOLOGY**. The *Annual Review of Anthropology* is an edited volume published each year by the American Anthropological Association, which is the principal association of anthropologists in the nation. Each annual volume contains review articles of trendy topics within the four sub-fields of anthropology. You can either do keyword searches of ethnic groups and concepts, or you can browse through the *Annual Review of Anthropology* to can get a picture of what topics are of current interest to anthropologists. Finding a review article on a topic that interests you enables you to 1) assess the academic views and debates on this topic and 2) find citations to dozens of other books and articles on the same topic.

To access review articles published in the ***Annual Review of Anthropology***, go to the [**journal locator**](http://ll3ep3kc7k.search.serialssolutions.com/) and search for this title. Then type in **Annual Review of Anthropology.**

**C. Popular News Articles by Journalists:** In addition to scholarly articles, you can use the on-line database **LEXIS-NEXIS ACADEMIC UNIVERSE** to find articles published in newspapers from around the world, including the *New York Times.* Non-academic newspapers and magazines are often a good place to obtain information on a "hot topic," but you should always read these critically ([**click here**](http://libguides.gettysburg.edu/content.php?pid=12691&sid=84948) for direct access)

*Tip:* When you enter the **Lexis-Nexis Academic Universe** site, click on **News**; and then **General News**. Then enter the name of the ethnic group or topic you are searching for as a "Keyword." Finally, select a fairly broad time frame of at least five to ten years in order to find news articles on ethnic groups and topics that do not normally get much news coverage.

*Please note:* Excellent international coverage can be found in The New York Times. To search only the New York Times via LEXIS-NEXIS, just type in "New York Times" after **Step Five: Search this Publication Title.**

**D. Advocacy Articles by Anthropologists:** A final source for excellent, though short, articles is the **CULTURAL SURVIVAL** website. Cultural Survival is an advocacy group run by anthropologists, and it hosts an excellent website where they archive articles from their journal. These articles cover various indigenous groups who are mobilizing around issues of natural resource management and self-determination. You can search for articles by keyword. ([click here](http://www.culturalsurvival.org/our-publications) for direct access).

**Requesting Books & Journal Articles not Available at Musselman Library:** Musselman Library has a great collection, but we are a small college and therefore can't hope to have everything. Therefore, ***do not limit yourself*** to items that you can easily get your hands on here! You can easily borrow books and articles via the two systems listed below:

**EZ Borrow:** a consortium of Pennsylvania schools; books arrive within days ([**click here**](http://palci.library.pitt.edu/%7Eursa/GETTY_login.html) for direct access)

**ILL (Interlibrary Loan):** a wider network of lenders, but ordering books from here can be a bit more time-consuming and they are often due within three weeks([**click here**](http://gettysburg.illiad.oclc.org/illiad/logon.html) for direct access)

**STEP 4 - FIND INFORMATION ON THE INTERNET**

The World Wide Web can provide excellent information on current events, controversial issues, or social problems. Background information, explanatory documents, maps, and statistics can be located by using the search engines listed on the library homepage. But beware: Internet documents are inferior to articles published in scholarly journals in terms of the reliability of their information and the depth of their analysis. In addition, Internet searches tend to bring up mountains of non-relevant information that you will have to weed through! Therefore, the Internet should be your last rather than first resource. Your best option for Internet searches is Google.

**In addition, the following Internet resources might be helpful:**

* The AMERICAN ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION lists some of the best and most up-to-date anthropology sites on the Internet. This singularly important "hub" is a good place to begin investigating the enormous wealth of anthropological material increasingly available on the Internet.  [**http://www.aaanet.org/**](http://www.aaanet.org/)
* Both the NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAP MACHINE and ALTAPEDIA ONLINE provide county maps and general information on all countries in the world. To access these, go to the following:   
    
          NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAP MACHINE:  
                                       [**http://plasma.nationalgeographic.com/mapmachine/**](http://plasma.nationalgeographic.com/mapmachine/)

        ATLAPEDIA ONLINE: [**http://www.atlapedia.com/**](http://www.atlapedia.com/)

* The LIBRARY OF CONGRESS COUNTRY STUDIES provide helpful information on select countries. Not all countries are included in this data base, but for those that are listed, you can obtain a complete country profile. This serves as a good background document for anyone thinking of conducting anthropological research abroad.  [**http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/cshome.html**](http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/cshome.html)

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