

## Resources for...

# American History

### CHOOSE YOUR TOPIC

1. Consult a general encyclopedia under **United States History** for a general outline and ideas. Use the encyclopedia's index for specific topics.
2. Look in WILO (the online catalog) for books under the LC Subject: **United States -- History -- Chronology** for books to help you choose a topic.
3. Consult the **Library of Congress Subject Headings** to see what subject headings the library uses when referring to your topic. Located across from the Reference Desk.
4. Use an **Electronic Database**. Use the subject list on the Online Databases page on the computer and scroll down to the heading of History.

### FIND INFORMATION ON YOUR TOPIC

#### **a. United States History**

Look in WILO (the online catalog) under the LC Subject **United States -- History**. This subject is further divided by time periods. Most of the books will use the 973 call no.

#### **b. Biographies** -- call no. for this section is 92, further arranged alphabetically by whom the book is about. Located on the first floor. **Biography Reference Bank** (Electronic Database)

#### **c. Indians of North America** -- call nos. are 970.1 and 970.3. **American Indian History Online** (Electronic Database)

#### **d. Local History** -- call no. is 977.84 and see **Special Collection** (ask at Reference Desk). **Vertical File - Kansas City Area** - Located across from Reference Desk. **Kansas City: an American story** (Ref. 977.84 M76k)

#### **e. Chronologies** -- major historical events presented in order by the date they occurred. **American Decades** (Ref. 973.9 Am3d) **American Eras** (Ref. 973.1 Am35e—Ref. 973.8 Am35e) **History Resource Center: U.S.** (Electronic Database) Click "Chronology."

#### **f. Dictionaries and encyclopedias**

**Encyclopedia of the New American Nation** (Ref. 973.03 En19n)  
**Dictionary of American History** (Ref. Desk 973.03 D56 2003)  
**History Resource Center: U.S** (Electronic Database)

**g. Specialized dictionaries and encyclopedias**

- Colonial America** (Ref. 973.203 C718)
- Encyclopedia Latina** (Ref. 973.0468 En19)
- The Seventies in America** (Ref. 973.924 Se82a)
- Tiller's Guide to Indian Country** (Ref. 970.1 T46t 2005)
- African American Studies Center** (Electronic Database)
- American Women's History Online** (Electronic Database)

**h. Statistics**

- Historical Statistics of the United States** (Ref. 317.3 Un3h 2006)
- Historical Statistics of Black America** (Ref. 973.0496 H629)

**i. Historical Atlases**

- National Geographic Historical Atlas of the United States** (Ref. 911.73 F53n)
- Historical Atlas of the United States** (Ref. 911.73 H629)
- Curriculum Resource Center** (Electronic Database) Click "History," Defaults to U.S. History, Click "Maps and Charts" tab

**j. Primary Source Material** -- Look in WILO (the online catalog) under the LC Subject

- United States -- History -- Sources**
- Documents of American History** (Ref. Desk 973 C73d-10)
- American Decades Primary Sources** (Ref. 973.9 Am3dp)
- Greenwood Daily Life Online & World Cultures Today** (Electronic Database)

**FIND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**PERIODICALS**

Find articles in periodicals -- Periodicals are newspapers, magazines and journals.

**American Heritage Magazine** - Past issues are located by the Bound Periodicals sign on the first floor. Consult the American Heritage Cumulative index to find articles on your subject.

**Historical New York Times Online** (Electronic Database) Full text articles from 1851-2003.

**JSTOR** (Electronic Database) Full text journal articles dating back to the 1800s.

**GENEALOGY**

**Heritage Quest Online** (Electronic Database)

**OTHER RESOURCES**

Several libraries in the metro area have special collections concerning local history. The following list contains a few suggestions.

- a. Kansas City, KS Public Library <http://www.kckpl.lib.ks.us/> Click "Kansas Collection."
- b. Kansas City Public Library <http://www.kclibrary.org/> Click "Research Resources," then choose "Local History" from the menu.
- c. Truman Library <http://www.trumanlibrary.org/>
- d. Mid Continent Library <http://www.mcpl.lib.mo.us/> Click "Genealogy & Family History."
- e. National Archives <http://www.nara.gov/>