

History Databases at the Boyden Library, Deerfield Academy

- This table outlines the most important searching characteristics of each history database.
- Consult Search Tips or Help for information about additional searching options (additional Boolean operators, field searching, etc.).

General Databases	Boolean Operators	Phrase Searching	Truncation Symbol	Subject Searching	Search by Categories	Special Characteristics
American Periodicals Series & Historical Newspapers (full text) Periodicals: (1741-1940) Newspapers: <i>The Hartford Courant</i> (1764-1984), <i>Chicago Tribune</i> (1849-1986), <i>The New York Times</i> (1851-2005), <i>The Atlanta Constitution</i> (1868-1942), <i>The Boston Globe</i> (1872-1925), <i>The Washington Post</i> (1877-1992), <i>Los Angeles Times</i> (1881-1986), <i>The Wall Street Journal</i> (1889-1991), and <i>The Christian Science Monitor</i> (1908-1995)	Use "and" to narrow & "or" to broaden	2 words next to each other searched as a phrase—can use quotes—3 words searched as words near each other	Use * to find word endings, ? to replace one character (wom?n)	No—no subject headings	No	Limit by date & document & publication type Advanced Search is available Field searching available—see Search Tips & Examples
America's Historical Newspapers (1690-2000) Hundreds of historic newspapers from more than 20 states	Use "and" to narrow & "or" to broaden—"and" is assumed between 2 words without quotes	Enclose phrases in quotes	Searches word endings automatically —* in place of multiple letters, ? in place of one	Yes	Yes—collections provide browse options (by subject, date, place, article type)	Examine each collection for limiting options—use drop down menu with search window, advanced search, or browse capabilities
CQ Researcher Plus Archive (1923-present) (full text) Weekly periodical that provides in-depth, non-biased coverage of political and social issues	Use "and" to narrow & "or" to broaden	Enclose phrases in quotes	Use * to find word endings, ? to replace one character	No	Yes—use Browse by Topic	Use the advanced search to search by date, titles only, or specific report sections
EBSCOhost databases (citations only for some articles, full text for others) Read database descriptions & choose the appropriate database for the topic—Most index articles back to the 1990's, but some publications are indexed back to the 1970's	Use "and" to narrow & "or" to broaden—use () with "or" in combination searches	2 words next to each other are searched as a phrase	Use * to find word endings, ? to replace one character	Yes—see Subject Terms		Offers field searching in Advanced Search—limit to full text, peer-reviewed articles, publication type, document type & articles with images—search more than one database at a time with EBSCOhost Web
History Reference Center (full text) Full text of 750 historical encyclopedias & other non-fiction books & 60 periodicals--55,000 historical documents; 40,000 biographies; 10,000 historical photos & maps; 80 hours of historical film & video	Use "and" to narrow & "or" to broaden—use () with "or" in combination searches	2 words next to each other searched as a phrase	Use * to find word endings, ? to replace one character	Yes	No	Basic Search: limit by peer-reviewed, timeline, full text, date, number of pages--Advanced Search: limits by publication type & field--Field searching with field codes possible in basic search—see Database Help
History Study Center (full text) Primary & secondary sources, reference sources, historical images, video clips, & links to reliable web sites	Use "and" to narrow & "or" to broaden—use () with "or" in combination searches	Enclose phrases in quotes	Use * to find word endings, ? to replace one character	No—no subject headings	Yes—provides a Topic Tree	Advanced Search recommended—use Boolean, search words in title--Limit to documents, journals, maps, pictures, videos, and websites

Readers Guide Retrospective (citations only) Indexes the most popular general interest periodicals published in the U.S. from 1890-1982	Use "and" to narrow & "or" to broaden—use () with "or" in complex searches	Enclose phrases in quotes	Searches word endings—use * to truncate, ? to replace one character	Yes	No	Limit by document type & physical description Field searching available—see Help
InfoTrac Databases (citations only for some articles, full text for others) Read database descriptions & choose the appropriate database for the topic—Most index articles back to the 1980's only—see Biography Resource Center for biographical information	Use "and" to narrow & "or" to broaden—use () with "or" in combination searches	2 words next to each other are searched as a phrase	Use * to find word endings, ? to replace one character	Yes—use the Subject Guide search	No	Dictionary--Offers field searching in Advanced Search—limit to full text, peer-reviewed articles, & articles with images—search more than one database at a time with InfoTrac Web
JSTOR (full text) Archive of core scholarly journals back to the 1800's—does NOT include current issues Arts & Sciences Collection consists of over six hundred journals in the Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences Biological Sciences Collection consists of journals in the natural & applied sciences	AND is assumed between words--Capitalize OR--use AND to narrow and OR to broaden—use () with OR in combination searches	Enclose phrases in quotes	Use * to find word endings, ? to replace one character	No—no subject headings	No	Field searching with field codes possible—see Tips—narrow by discipline, field, & type of article in Advanced Search
Specialized Databases (full text)						
American History Online Includes biographies, events & topics, primary sources, timelines, an image gallery, maps & charts, Learning Centers organized by period, & an editor's selection each month	"And" is assumed between words o narrow the search or use Advanced Search	Enclose phrases in quotes or use Advanced Search	???—information not provided	Yes—Events & Topics is organized by subject	Yes—offers browsing by categories & by time period	Keyword searches result in tabbed categories— Learning Centers organize information by time period
American Slavery Includes 4,000 narratives collected from American slaves from 1936-1938	"And" can be used to narrow, but Advanced Search is more reliable	???—use the Advanced Search	???—use the Advanced Search	Yes—includes a subject index	Navigate by narrator, topic, "master", and location	Primary documents—use Advanced Search to limit
Ancient & Medieval History Online Covers prehistory through the 1500's for ancient Egypt, Mesopotamia, Greece, Rome, ancient and medieval Africa, medieval Europe, the Americas, and ancient and medieval Asia--includes biographies, maps, images, videos, primary sources, timelines, and more.	"And" is assumed between words o narrow the search or use Advanced Search	Enclose phrases in quotes or use Advanced Search	???—information not provided	Yes—Events & Topics is organized by subject	Yes—offers browsing by categories & by time period	Keyword searches result in tabbed categories— Learning Centers organize information by time period
CIAO Theory & research in international affairs--"working papers from university research institutes, occasional papers series from NGOs, foundation-funded research projects, proceedings from conferences, books, journals and policy briefs"	???—information not provided	2 words next to each other searched as a phrase	Use * to find word endings (not within phrases)--use ? to replace one character	Yes—includes a subject search	No	Possible to limit by type of document & subject—additional limiters provided in the Advanced Search—includes Course Packs
CountryWatch Provides demographic, political, economic, business, cultural, and environmental information on each of the 192 recognized countries of the world—includes news, maps, and data	Use "and" to narrow & "or" to broaden under "more search features"--use quotes around concepts	???—information not provided	???—information not provided	No—no subject headings	Yes—use navigational menus on the left within each section of the database	Limit the keyword search under "more search features"
Historic Events of the 20th Century The Civil Rights Movement, The Collapse of Communism in the Soviet Union, The Holocaust,	Use "and" to narrow & "or" to broaden—use ()	2 words next to each other probably	Use * to find word endings	No—no subject headings	Table of Contents plus Content	An online reference source--includes Student Resources and Teacher

Islamic Fundamentalism, World War I, and World War II-- narrative histories, primary documents, biographies, chronologies, glossaries, photos, maps, multimedia resources, & lesson plans.	with "or" in combination searches	searched as a phrase— information not provided			Categories	Resources
Historical Statistics of the United States Standard source for quantitative facts on American history	"And" is assumed between 2 words— use "or" to broaden	Click "include only exact matches in results"		Use the Indexes tab	Use the Table of Contents	This resource is complex-- use the Help information to understand the contents and how to use it—User Guide explains the data-- use the Advanced Search for additional limiters
Modern World History Online Covers world history from the mid-15th century to the present--includes subject entries, biographies, images and videos, maps and charts, primary sources, timelines, and more	"And" is assumed between words o narrow the search or use Advanced Search	Enclose phrases in quotes or use Advanced Search	???— information not provided	Yes—Events & Topics is organized by subject	Yes—offers browsing by categories & by time period	Keyword searches result in tabbed categories— Learning Centers organize information by time period
SIRS Decades Primary sources from the 20th century plus reference sources--advertisements, editorial cartoons, letters, memos, messages, maps and charts, original documents, original works of art, photographs, poems and literary works, posters, published articles, speeches & addresses	Use "and" to narrow and "or" to broaden—use () with "or" in combination searches	Enclose phrases in quotes	Use * to find word endings	Yes—subject searching provided on main screen— Descriptors also attached to articles & linked	Topic lists provided under the links for the decades	Choose subject or keyword searching or search by decade on main screen— limit by date & source type—includes Document Based Questions & Timeline
World Conflicts Today Analyzes 10 areas of major world conflict—for each area, includes history, timeline, obstacles, implications, & resources	Use the Advanced Search to narrow & broaden a search	Use the Advanced Search	???— information not provided	No—no subject headings	Yes—use navigational menus at the left	Includes Teaching Ideas & a slide show for each country