Research Guide

Art1550 Survey of Visual Art: Prehistoric - Medieval

http://olinuris.library.cornell.edu/ref/research/skill1.htm

Library Homepage: http://www.sunyjcc.edu/library

Art History LibGuide: http://sunyjcc.libguides.com/ArtHistory
(Link also on the JCC Library Homepage under SEARCH COLLECTIONS - LibGuides)

1. Your Topic? (try the Credo Concept Map for ideas.)

Keywords, related concepts and synonyms

Use Boolean operators (AND, OR, NOT) to build your search:

2. Background Information:

Print Encyclopedias

Gale Virtual Reference Library

Credo Reference

3. Library Catalogs:

Hultquist Library

Search Types:

All Fields – the broadest search looks for your search term in all parts of the catalog record

Keyword Search – looks for “Words in.....” author, subject, title, etc.

Browse Search – looks for title, subject “….begins with” or “author lastname, firstname”

**Hint** Use Subject Headings from the Art History Libguide to search “subject begins with.....”

Other Library Catalogs

WorldCat for ILL (Interlibrary Loan)
4. **Online Databases from the JCC Library Homepage:**

To find published magazine, newspaper and journal articles we suggest:

- **ProQuest Research Library**
- **Academic Search Complete**
- **Humanities Source (EBSCO)** (Use Advanced Search to select Full Text)
- **National Geographic Virtual Library**

For other subject specific databases: From the JCC Libraries Homepage under SEARCH COLLECTIONS, click on **Databases by Subject**. Select **Music and Fine Arts** or **History**, and click **Apply** for a list of databases related to the subject.

Try the Journal Linker: From the JCC Libraries Homepage, under SEARCH COLLECTIONS, click on Journals. Choose **Architecture**, **History** or **Visual Arts** then scroll through the alphabetic list of related electronic journals. Click on the plus sign under a title to see which databases have full text or if the journal is available in print at the library.

5. **Internet Sources:**

- **Art History LibGuide**: [http://sunyjcc.libguides.com/ArtHistory](http://sunyjcc.libguides.com/ArtHistory)

What does a website **domain** tell you? .com, .org, .edu, .gov, .mil, .net

Government websites (.gov, .mil) can usually be trusted to provide valid information for your research. However, these websites may contain links to other resources that you will need to evaluate carefully.

Industry and other special interest group sites (.org, .com) could be used as sources for your research as long as you consider that they will be presenting information that may be biased by commercial interests, political views, or rhetorical agendas.

Education sites (.edu) may contain student assignments or lesson plans that are not suitable as research sources.

**Check with your instructor for permitted domains. Before you use any website as a source for your research always evaluate the information thoroughly.**

6. **Evaluate Sources:**

- **Currency** - The timeliness of the information – Is the information current or out-of-date?
- **Relevance** - The usefulness of the information - Does it relate to your topic or answer your research question?
- **Authority** - The source of the information - What are the author's qualifications to write on the topic?
- **Accuracy** - The correctness and reliability of the information - Can you verify any of the information in another source?
- **Purpose** - The reason for the information - Does the point of view appear objective and impartial?

For more information go to the **Introduction to Research LibGuide**: [http://sunyjcc.libguides.com/intro_research](http://sunyjcc.libguides.com/intro_research)

and **Online Writing Assistance** under Writing/Citing Guides on the JCC Library homepage.

7. **Document your Sources:**

**Make a note of how, where and when you find each source, even if you don’t think you will use it!**

Online MLA Citation Guide: [http://sunyjcc.libguides.com/MLAGuide](http://sunyjcc.libguides.com/MLAGuide)

- Writing/Citing Guides on the JCC Library homepage.
• Print Citation Manuals at the Reference Desk.