First Year Seminar Support:
Our Music, Their Music

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Finding Books

Reference Sources
Reference materials, including encyclopedias, dictionaries, atlases, and other collections of information, are valuable resources for quickly identifying key facts or researching background information about a particular event or person. Reference materials are generally found on the first floor of the Smith Library Center; the best way to find out what is available in our reference area is to take some time to go on an exploratory journey around it. For more information about our reference collection, visit the following library web pages: Locating Reference Material and Locating Background Information.

Music Reference Materials
Following is a list of important music reference materials. Many can be found in the "780" section of the Reference collection, first floor of the A. Frank Smith Library Center.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reference Title</th>
<th>Call Number</th>
<th>Brief Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St. James Encyclopedia of Popular Culture</td>
<td>Reference 973.9 Sa22</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Decades</td>
<td>Reference 973.92 AM347</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encyclopedia of Popular Music</td>
<td>Multi-vol. set Reference 781.64 En19</td>
<td>The Encyclopedia includes jazz, rock, country, folk, rap, blues, stage and film musicals, heavy metal, punk, and techno, as well as a unique coverage of world music and reggae.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contemporary Musicians</td>
<td>Multi-vol. set Reference 780.922 C767</td>
<td>Profiles of the people in music.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
SU Online Catalog and Collections

You can find books on your topic by searching SU’s online library catalog by subject and title keyword. Subject searches target the specific Library of Congress Subject Headings that have been assigned to the book that the Smith Library Center owns. If you do not know the subject headings that pertain to your topic, you may want to begin with a title keyword search, a search by any word that appears in a book’s title. Once you have found a source that you like, look at the subject headings at the bottom of the catalog record to determine the best terms to use in a subject search for further materials. For additional tips on the online catalog, see the library's Guide to Locating Books.

Books from the SU Collections:

Music books are classified in the Dewey Decimal system, in the “780” section. Most of these are housed on the third floor of the library. You can find books on your topic by searching SU’s online library catalog by subject and title keyword. Subject searches target the specific Library of Congress Subject Headings that have been assigned to the book that the Smith Library Center owns. If you do not know the subject headings that pertain to your topic, you may want to begin with a TITLE KEYWORD search, a search by any word that appears in a book’s title. Once you have found a source that you like, look at the subject headings at the bottom of the catalog record to determine the best terms to use in a SUBJECT SEARCH for further materials.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Book</th>
<th>Assigned Subject Headings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bob Dylan, Bruce Springsteen, and American Music</td>
<td>Popular music --United States --Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dylan, Bob, 1941 --Criticism and interpretation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Springsteen, Bruce --Criticism and interpretation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hip Hop America</td>
<td>Hip-hop --United States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Popular culture --United States</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rap (music) --History and criticism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Music and society --United States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American Jazz</td>
<td>Jazz --History and Criticism</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Consider searching on the following SUBJECT headings for this assignment:

- Jazz
- Hip hop
- Country music
- Popular music
- Blues (music)
- Rock music
- Ragtime music
- Rap (music)
- Rhythm and blues music

Finding Music Recordings and Compact Discs

The Media Library contains an extensive collection of music and other audio media on compact disc and LP records, housed on the second floor of the A. Frank Smith Library. The library catalog includes an Audio/Video Materials search option.

E-books and Interlibrary Loan

To find eBooks that the library owns, search netLibrary, a service which provides access to free and purchased full text scholarly, reference and professional eBooks from academic and professional publishers. eBooks may be "checked out" for 24 hours. To see the full text of a title you must first create a personal account; you will then receive instructions by email.

To find books available at other libraries, along with some Internet resources, search WorldCat, which is an online catalog listing the holdings of libraries worldwide. You can request books not owned by the Smith Library Center through our Interlibrary Loan service. Allow extra time for the books to be delivered.

Finding Articles

Your instructor may ask you to include "academic, refereed sources, and become familiar with the library and its holdings." Note that "academic," "scholarly" and "peer-reviewed" are synonyms -- all referring to articles that have been written by an academic expert in a field for an academic audience, and that the article has been reviewed by other experts to ensure its worthiness for publication. Advice on how to evaluate different kinds of periodicals (academic journals, magazines, newspapers, general interest) can be found on the library's web guide Distinguishing Scholarly Journals.
The library's databases are the best sources for journal articles. To find journal articles on your topic, follow these steps:

1. Select the database you want to search. The library subscribes to over 100 electronic databases that index topics in a variety of disciplines. A complete listing of all our electronic databases, with descriptions, can be found at the [Databases A-Z](#) page.

2. Once you have searched for your topic in a database, you will have a list of *citations*. A citation gives you all the information you need to look up the article: the title of the article, author, name of the journal, volume, issues, pages and date.

3. Many of our databases include links to *full-text versions* of articles cited. Our [Full-Text Journal Links](#) page lists those journals for which we have full-text access. If a particular article you need is not available in an online full-text version, search the library's catalog to find out if the library owns the periodical in which the article appeared and where in the library the periodical is located.

4. If the Smith Library Center does not have the journal in print or full-text online format, you may use our [Interlibrary Loan Services](#) to obtain a copy of the article from another library. Allow extra time for your article to be delivered.

The library subscribes to one major online database in the field of music (RILM). Databases in other arts, humanities, and social sciences are also important resources for interdisciplinary subjects related to the field of music. All are on the library’s website.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Database Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Academic Search Premier (EBSCOHost)</strong></td>
<td>This database covers scholarly and popular publications in a variety of disciplines. Some full-text articles available. A great starting point for your research. Includes scholarly titles -- <em>Popular Music &amp; Society</em> and <em>Journal of Popular Culture</em> and popular publications-- <em>Rolling Stone</em>, <em>Billboard</em> and <em>Esquire</em>. To limit to peer-reviewed items, check the scholarly (peer-reviewed) journals box. Refereed materials. are also referred to as &quot;peer-reviewed.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Alternative Press Index (FirstSearch)</strong></td>
<td>Indexes alternative, radical and left periodicals covering cultural, economic, political &amp; social change. Includes titles like <em>Mother Jones</em>, <em>Ute, Radical America, Village Voice</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RILM Abstracts of Music Literature (FirstSearch)</strong></td>
<td>RILM provides citations and abstracts for music books, periodicals, dissertations, newspapers, program notes from recordings and concerts, and other sources. Coverage is international and is retrospective to 1969. Emphasis in on classical music.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ArticleFirst (FirstSearch)</strong></td>
<td>This is a general reference database, touching all subject areas. A mix of both popular works (magazines) and scholarly works (journal articles) are available for searching.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Readers’ Guide Abstracts (FirstSearch)</strong></td>
<td>Indexes popular magazines only. Some full-text articles. Includes magazine titles like <em>Rolling Stone</em> and <em>Vibe</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Humanities Abstracts (FirstSearch)</strong></td>
<td>A general index to periodicals in the humanities, including music and the performing arts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Biography Index (FirstSearch)</strong></td>
<td>Covers all periods and all countries and is one of the best places to start biographical research, especially on contemporary people. For example, new age-ist <em>Yanni</em>.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Finding Internet Resources

Although there is an incredible amount of information available on the Internet, much of the information may be unreliable. Whereas journal articles and books have undergone a rigorous review process, most of the information posted on the WWW has not been checked by any authority, other than the owner of the Web site. To learn more about how to evaluate web sites critically, visit the library's web guide Evaluating Information on the Web.

You may also wish to use WorldCat, an online catalog listing the holdings of libraries worldwide, as you can identify high-quality online resources by doing an Advanced Search on your topic and limiting the type of materials to "Internet Resources." The Librarian's Index to the Internet is another excellent source of "reliable, trustworthy, librarian-resources," organized by subject. The library's Web Reference Sources page provides links to this and many other useful Internet resources.

Dawn Ganss, in the March 2001 issue of School Librarian's Workshop, compiled "A Carousel of American Music." You may want to investigate the following sites she found as part of your research:

- **Popular Songs in American History.** "Full of music, lyrics and information on folksongs and ballads, this amazing site by Lesley Nelson lets you listen to songs from the Revolutionary period to the early 1900s and discover their historical content. The author includes short historical essays in the main listing."

- **Heart and Soul: A Celebration of African-American Music.** "From World Book Encyclopedia, this site features the African-American role in music in 5 major areas: Spirituals; Jazz (Listen and Learn uses sound clips to show differences in styles); Blues; Rock and Roll; and Classical Music. Biographical sketches and Related Web sites have more information."

- **The Mississippi: River of Song.** "Audio and video samples take you on a journey down the Mississippi with artists and their music ranging from Indian drums to the blues, from gospel to country, from rock to soul, from jazz to zydeco. The voyage is divided into four sections: Americans Old and New, Midwestern Crossroads, Southern Fusion, and Louisiana, Where Music is King. Read about The Mississippi: River of Song, a Smithsonian Institution series for public television and radio exploring the richness and vitality of American music in the heart of the nation at the close of the twentieth century with scenes of music in homes, halls, churches, and nightclubs and bars."

- **Drinkin' in the Blues.** "Stop by the Bourbon Street Café and celebrate the Blues. Visit Blues singers; listen to their songs through sound clips while reading their biographical sketches. Cleverly designed for upper middle school students to create a 'bluesy' atmosphere."

- **The Blue Flame Café.** "Looking for information on blues musicians? This alphabetically arranged interactive encyclopedia has over 100 biographies of the great ones."

- **After Hours Ragtime Café.** "For piano lovers and those who enjoy a syncopated beat, Enter the café. Learn about Ragtime. Listen to the music (Midis) and be introduced to the men (Bios) who made it popular. The Web site for grades 6 and up is attractive and user-friendly. Younger students will enjoy the piano music."

- **"Perfessor" Bill Edwards Ragtime/Old-Time Piano Gallery.** "A terrific collection of Ragtime music on midi files with sheet music covers and notes on each selection including: Gospel Ragtime, Pre-Ragtime, Rags Up to 1912, Rags from 1913 on, Contemporary Rags, Cakewalks & Marches, Patriotic Pieces, Al Jolson Hits, songs of 1912 and on and more. This site is frequently updated."

- **The Roots of Jazz.** "Uncover the roots of jazz in the Overview. Read about the Early Jazz Musicians (books and CDs cited for purchase). Pictures from Archives include brief annotations. 1895-1920 presents a miscellany of information on African-Americans & Music. Find information on the famous Cotton Club, a bibliography of Jazz Books, a map to locate musicians by state or instrument, an interactive Timeline of jazz roots, Links to early jazz web sites, and a new feature, From the Family (information and pictures from close friends and family)."

- **The History of Jazz.** "The history of jazz is presented in 22 segments ranging from pre-jazz to modern creative jazz (uses new electronic technology). Included are: Tin Pan Alley, Swing, Big Band, Hard Bop, Neobop, Soul Jazz, Afro-Latin, Acid Jazz, Neoclassical and more. It offers biographies and sound clips of famous jazz musicians and bands. The Jazz Links lead to other websites."

- **Big Band and Jazz Hall of Fame.** "Read about Jazzology at this information-packed site featuring Jazz History with its many styles beginning with Ragtime and ending with Retro Swing. Along the way, learn about Dixieland, Boogie Woogie, Swing/Progressive Swing, Dance Bands/Society Bands, BeBop, Bosa Nova, Jazz/Rock Fusion, Soul Jazz, Pop Jazz, Contemporary Jazz, and more. Search
Jazzology for biographies of the major musicians by selecting instrument, category and style."

- **Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum**. "Use drop down menus and explore buttons to learn about the development of rock and its key players. In the Hall of Fame, meet the current 2000 inductees, search for your star, or check the full inductee list. Explore the current exhibition, John Lennon: his Life and Work. Visit other featured exhibitions. Past exhibitions include rock style, roots, rhyme and rage (the hip-hop story), Elvis, bang your head (three decades of hard rock and heavy metal), and I want to take you higher (the psychedelic era, 1965-1969). The permanent collection lists 500 songs that are "some of rock and roll's most popular and influential." Songs written in blue lead to the inductee's sketch. Although response time is slow, the wait is well worth it."

- **History of Country Music**. "The exhibit looks at some influential artists and songs of the 1930s through the 1990s era by era. Find artists from Gene Autry, Roy Acuff, Bob Wills, Hank Williams to Patsy Cline, Lefty Frizzell, Willie Nelson, Garth Brooks and many others. Included are numerous rare images, sound clips, and digital movies. The site is divided by a timeline: The Beginnings 20's and 30's; The Grand Ole Opry and Roy Acuff in the 1940's; Cowboy Swing; Western Swing of the 30's and 40's; Bill Monroe and Bluegrass Music; Honky Tonk Music of the 30's and 40's; The Nashville Sound; Outlaw Country; Urban Cowboys; and Garth Brooks and New Country."

- **American Operas 1841-1947**. "What is an opera? What is an American? Read the answers in About this Web Site with a timeline of premieres and events, 62 American Composers including Leonard Bernstein, Aaron Copland, Scott Joplin, Deems Taylor, George Gershwin, Roger Sessions, Virgil Thompson, William Grant Still, and many others. Significant dates are given, as well as synopses of selected operas and discographies. The American Repertoire has suggested arias and selections for singers interested in opera."

Reference and the general collection. Many professors and departments prefer different style manuals; check with your professor for the correct manual.

For guidelines on preparing bibliographies and footnotes, download the printed handouts Citing Internet Resources and Citing Print Resources, as well as the library's web guide to *Citing Your Sources—Print and Electronic Style Guides*. All of this citing is meant to give credit to the authors of the sources you used and to enable a reader of your paper to locate these sources. Neglecting to acknowledge material from outside sources in your writing is plagiarism, a violation of Southwestern University's honor code as described in the Student Handbook. For more information, see the library's guide to *Keeping It Honest: Avoiding Plagiarism*.

For example, to document an article or other material accessed through a library or institutional subscription service, see "The MLA Style" web site. The site provides you with current information on how to cite a particular resource.

Citation from the library subscription database *Academic Search Premier*:

- **Title**: Madonna
- **Author(s)**: Allen, Steve
- **Document type**: Article
- **Source**: Journal of Popular Culture; Summer 93, Vol.27 issue 1, p1, 11p
- **Abstract**: Analyzes Madonna’s role in the problem of vulgarity and general ugliness characterizing modern entertainment. Comparison with entertainers of earlier times; Dilemmas as to the proper place of sex within the context of a civilized society; Criticisms on the reasons for Madonna’s success; Concept of deviant behavior; Madonna’s sexuality…

MLA style:


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**Citing Your Sources**

**Your research isn't complete until you correctly cite your sources!**

Style manuals provide you with practical information for preparing your paper. The four commonly used systems of documentation include: MLA, used in English and the humanities; APA, used in psychology and the social sciences; Chicago, used primarily in history; and CBE, used in the sciences. All of these manuals can be found in...