

Where to start

Reference books like encyclopedias, dictionaries, and bibliographies are a good place to start your research, to get a brief overview of a topic, and to find lists of additional resources on a specific subject.

The Blackwell Encyclopedia of Sociology

Over 1700 entries will cover historical and recent developments in sociological knowledge as well as introduce sociological theories and research that have developed outside of the United States and Western Europe. Find it on the Reference shelves in the Library (first floor) under the call number Ref HM425 .B53 2007.

The Cambridge Dictionary of Sociology

This dictionary, prepared by an international roster of contributors offers more than 600 unusually substantial, thoughtful A-to-Z entries—each ranging from a paragraph to several pages long—on old and new sociological concepts, theories, theorists, debates, and more. Most entries incorporate references for further reading, and all contain good cross-referencing. Find it on the Reference shelves in the Library (first floor) under the call number Ref HM425 .C36 2006.

Credo Reference

This is a search engine where you can search online encyclopedias and other digitized (online) reference sources. Searchable by reference source, by subject, or across all sources. Includes a concept mapping function to assist in broadening or narrowing searches. Reliable, reputable reference sources. Citation assistance is available for the most popular formats. Find it in our list of online databases on the library's website by selecting Databases from the Find menu.

Encyclopedia Britannica Online

This is a general topics encyclopedia and contains many topics other than music. Articles here may be helpful to researchers in the early stages of selecting and researching a topic. Find it in our list of online databases on the library's website by selecting Databases from the Find menu.

Encyclopedia of American Social History

Offers essays on the major issues that have dominated the study of social history in America, grouped under broad categories such as "Periods of Social Change," "The Construction of Social Identities," and "Social Problems, Social Control, and Social Protest." Find it on the Reference shelves in the Library (first floor) under the call number Ref HN57.E58 1993, v.1-3.

Encyclopedia of Drugs and Alcohol Description: Comprehensive source of information for nonspecialists about a wide variety of topics relating to substance use and abuse. Includes appendices and a comprehensive index. Find it on the Reference shelves in the Library (first floor) under the call number Ref HV5804.E53 1995, v.1-4.

Encyclopedia of Marriage and the Family

Description: Includes 169 entries covering the following general topics: marriage and family types, emotions, interpersonal dynamics, economics, health and illness, family law, values and religion, sexual beliefs and behaviors, reproduction, socialization, parenting, and sociocultural influences on marriage and the family. Find it on the Reference shelves in the Library (first floor) under the call number Ref HQ9.E52 1995, v.1-2.

Encyclopedia of Sociology

Description: Five-volume set includes 397 articles on a wide variety of sociological topics, from adolescence to world religions. These articles provide an excellent depth and breadth of coverage. Articles include bibliographies. Index in volume 5. . Find it on the Reference shelves in the Library (first floor) under the call number Ref HM425 .E5 2000, v.1-5.

Gale Encyclopedia of Multicultural America

Description: Two-volume collection of over 100 articles addressing the acculturation, assimilation, family and community dynamics, language, religion, employment and economic conditions, politics and government, and significant contributions of various ethnic groups in the United States. Find it on the Reference shelves in the Library (first floor) under the call number Ref E184.A1 G14 1995, v.1-2.

Gale Virtual Reference Library

Provides electronic access to reference books. Browse or search one reference source or all at one time. Content and/or interface may be translated into a selected languages upon request. Entries may be downloaded, and persistent URLs saved for future use. Find it in our list of online databases on the library's website by selecting Databases from the Find menu.

Key Concepts in Social Research

Description: Offers sociological studies about a variety of topics relating to violence and nonviolence, from violence toward the aged to youth violence. Find it on the Reference shelves in the Library (first floor) under the call number Ref HM886.E53 1999, v.1-3.

A Modern Dictionary of Sociology

Description: Somewhat dated, but provides clear definitions of many of the terms one will encounter in the literature of sociology. Find it on the Reference shelves in the Library (first floor) under the call number Ref HM17 .T5 1979.

Reference Universe

This is a search engine where you can search a large collection of encyclopedias, dictionaries, handbooks and other reference books to find authoritative information including article titles, links to online sources and complete indexes to reference resources. These resources may be online encyclopedias, or subject encyclopedias in this library's print reference collection. Find it in our list of online databases on the library's website by selecting Databases from the Find menu.

The Student Sociologist's Handbook

Description: Somewhat dated, yet still provides students with a guide to viewing the world with a sociological perspective, understanding and evaluating sociological research, and learning to do sociological research themselves. Find it on the Reference shelves in the Library (first floor) under the call number Ref HM68.B37 1986.

More detailed information in articles, book chapters, etc.

Here you can find more detailed information about topics in sociology in books and articles and other textual sources, as well as sources of raw data and social / demographic statistics, and research methods in sociology

Books and Articles

Academic Search Complete

This general topics database is not specific to sociology; however, it is very large and indexes the largest number of sociology journals of all of the Library's databases. Most of the journal articles are available in full text in this database. Find it in our list of online databases on the library's website by selecting Databases from the Find menu.

International Bibliography of Sociology

Indexes journal articles and monographs from all over the world in over 70 languages, with English title translations when necessary. Find it on the Reference shelves in the Library (first floor) under the call number Ref Z7161.I594.

JSTOR

The JSTOR Arts & Sciences I Collection provides full access to back files of core scholarly journals, some of which date back to the 1800s. Journals currently indexed include select ones from the areas of African American studies, anthropology, Asian studies, botany, ecology, economics, education, finance, history, languages & literatures, Latin American studies, mathematics, philosophy, political science, population studies, Slavic studies, sociology, and statistics. However, this database does not include the most recent issues of these journals. Find it in our list of online databases on the library's website by selecting Databases from the Find menu.

Portal – Library catalog

The library online catalog is the place to search for books, journals, and video recordings that the library owns. Begin your search on the library homepage (<http://rattler.tamucc.edu>) by selecting Find Books & More. Search for books by title, author, or subject. To find videos, conduct a search just as you would for a book, then use the Limit/Sort Search button to limit your results to Video Record.

Sociological Abstracts

The index of articles in sociology, Sociological Abstracts summarizes and indexes the international literature in sociology and related disciplines in the social and behavioral sciences. The database provides abstracts of journal articles and citations to book reviews drawn from over 1,800+ serials publications, and also provides abstracts of books, book chapters, dissertations, and conference papers. Records for materials indexed in the print version of Sociological Abstracts from the database's first 11 years, 1952-1962, have been added to the database. Full text of articles is provided via links to other databases and resources but Sociological Abstracts itself contains no full text. Find it in our list of online databases on the library's website by selecting Databases from the Find menu.

Social Science Abstracts

This database provides abstracts and indexing for 690 core journals in the fields of anthropology, economics, geography, political science, social work, sociology and international relations. Full text of articles is provided via links to other databases and resources but Social Science Abstracts itself contains no full text. It is updated weekly. Find it in our list of online databases on the library's website by selecting Databases from the Find menu.

Social Sciences Citation Index

The *Social Sciences Citation Index* is a multidisciplinary index to the journal literature of the social sciences. It fully indexes more than 1,725 journals across 50 social sciences disciplines including anthropology, political science, public health, sociology, social work, urban studies, and women's studies. It indexes individually selected, relevant items from over 3,300 of the world's leading scientific and technical journals. An average of 60,000 new cited references are added each week. The Social Sciences Citation Index contains little full text. Full text of articles is provided primarily via links to other databases and resources. Find it in our list of online databases on the library's website by selecting Databases from the Find menu.

Raw data and statistics

American Statistics Index

Indexes statistical publications of the United States government. Find it on the Reference shelves in the Library (first floor) under the call number Ref Z7554.U5 A461.

Census Bureau

Provides online access to a variety of publications from the Census Bureau and to data from the year 2000 census. Find it at <http://www.census.gov/>.

County and City Data Book

Description: Provides statistics on a local and regional basis for unincorporated areas, cities, counties, metropolitan areas, and urbanized areas. Find it on the Reference shelves in the Library (first floor) under the call number Ref HA202.A36 2000.

Digest of Education Statistics

Contains statistical material covering education at all levels. Find it the Federal Documents section of the Library (first floor) under the call number ED 1.326: 2002 and at <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/getpubcats.asp?sid=091#061>.

FedStats

Gateway site to statistics from over 100 U.S. Federal agencies. Find it at <http://www.fedstats.gov/>.

Gallup Organization

Homepage for the organization that conducts Gallup polls, which aim to measure and interpret actions and attitudes of the public. Find it at <http://gallup.com/>.

Handbook of Labor Statistics

Description: Provides statistical information on earnings, employment, the labor force, occupations, unemployment, cost of living, working conditions, etc. Find it at the Reference Desk in the Library (first floor) under the call number L 2.3/5: 989 .

Historical Statistics of the United States, Colonial Times to 1970

Comparative historical statistics on political, social and economic aspects of the United States. Find it on the Reference shelves in the Library (first floor) under the call number Ref HA202.B87 1976 pts.1&2.

Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR)

ICPSR is the world's largest archive of digital social science data. It contains over 500,000 data and documentation files comprising over 6,300 studies from a broad range of disciplines. Data available includes child care and early education research data, demographic data, health and medical care data, and criminal justice data. Data sets are analysis-ready in multiple software formats. Also included are bibliographies of data-related literature. Find it in our list of online databases on the library's website by selecting Databases from the Find menu.

Statistical Abstract of the United States

Collection of statistics on social and economic conditions in the United States, as well as selected international data. Find it at <http://www.census.gov/prod/www/statistical-abstract-us.html>.

Statistical Reference Index

Indexes American statistical publications from private organizations as well as state government sources. Find it on the Reference shelves in the Library (first floor) under the call number Ref Z7554.U5 S73.

Research Methods in Sociology

Key Concepts in Social Research by Geoff Payne and Judy Payne

Find it on the Reference shelves in the Library (first floor) under the call number Ref H62 .P259 2004).

A Companion to Qualitative Research edited by Uwe Flick

Find it in the main collection in the Library (second floor) under the call number H61 .Q16513 2004.

Professional Associations and bibliographies

American Sociological Association

The ASA is the main professional association for sociologists in the U.S. The site includes information for sociologists, students, and the public on news, resources of interest, careers, employment, and more. Find it at Location: <http://www.asanet.org/>.

Social Science Information Gateway

A Searchable directory of links to various online social science resources. Find it at <http://sosig.ac.uk/>.

SocioSite

Comprehensive site from the University of Amsterdam that lists dozens of sites of interest to sociologists. Designed from a global point of view to “give access to the world wide scene of social science.” Find it at <http://www.sociosite.net/>.

SocioWeb

A good starting point for finding sociological sites on the Internet. Find it at <http://www.socioweb.com/~markbl/socioweb/>.

For additional assistance with music research, contact Sarah Sutton, librarian liaison to the Sociology Department (361) 825-2355 or sarah.sutton@tamucc.edu.

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