Resources for HIST 303
Possession and Property in Middle Ages & Early Modern Europe
2/18/2016
History Librarian: Jen Starkey jstarkey@oberlin.edu

Encyclopedias

*Dictionary of the Middle Ages.* Main Reference D114.D5 1982 (13v)
*The New Cambridge Medieval History // link to e-books*
*The New Cambridge Modern History // link to e-books*
*Greenwood Encyclopedia of Global Medieval Life and Culture.* Main Reference CB351 .G743 2009 (3v)
*Encyclopedia of Society and Culture in the Medieval World.* Main Reference CB351 .E53 2008 (4v)

Browsing Call numbers

- D101-110.5  Medieval and modern history, 476-
- D111-203  Medieval history
- D135-149  Migrations
- D151-173  Crusades
- D175-195  Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem. Latin Orient, 1099-1291
- D200-203  Later medieval. 11th-15th centuries
- D(204)-(475)  Modern history, 1453-
- D219-234  1453-1648

The rest of “D” classified call numbers is by geographical area: (i.e. books on medieval Spain are in DP97.3-160.8) Complete [LC classification for class D](https://www.loc.gov/standards/class foreach.html)

Article Databases

**History**
- *Historical Abstracts*  History of the modern world (1450 to the present)
- *International Medieval Bibliography*  Late antiquity to late middle ages (300-1500)
- *Iter: Gateway to the Middle Ages and Renaissance*  (400-1700)
- *Feminae: Medieval Women and Gender Index*  Europe & MENA 450 C.E. to 1500 C.E.

**Art history**
- *Art Full Text*  (scholarship from 1984-present)
- *Art Index Retrospective*  (scholarship 1929-1984)
- *Bibliography of the History of Art*  (late antiquity to present)

**Anthropology**
- *Anthropology Plus*

**Religious Studies**
- *ATLA Religion*

**Multidisciplinary**
- *Humanities International Complete*
- *JSTOR*  full text of selected core journals
- *Summon*  search engine that searches almost everything the library has access to
Primary Sources

Images / Objects / Artworks
- ArtStor: image database, antiquity to present
- Europeana Portal: search engine of holdings of European museums and cultural institutions
- Index of Christian Art: catalog of art and artifacts for study of medieval visual culture; some images are restricted, many are public
- CAMIO: Catalog of Museum Images Online
- Artefacts of the British Museum: online database with images incl. some 3D images

Textual Sources (may include objects)
- Early English Books Online: searchable scans of 100,000 books published in English 1473-1700
- Digital Scriptorium: image database of medieval and renaissance manuscripts
- Internet Medieval Sourcebook: gateway site that links to vetted web resources
  - Internet Medieval Sourcebook: Saints Lives
- Gallica: digital library, National Library of France
- Monumenta Germaniae Historica: primary sources in the study of German history before 1500
- Early Modern Resources: portal to vetted web sites (1500-1800)
- EuroDocs: links to online collections of European primary source documents

Other ideas for finding primary sources
- Images reproduced in books or articles
- Allen Memorial Art Museum,
  Oberlin College Library Special Collections

Work with a Librarian

- Sign up for a Research Appointment
  30 minute consultation with a librarian about your research project: hone your topic, develop a thesis statement, work on identifying sources, and plan research strategies.
- Contact me directly: Jen Starkey, jstarkey@oberlin.edu
- Contact any librarian reference@oberlin.edu
- Drop in at the Research Desk

What Students Need to Learn About Problem-Posing

- Authentic disciplinary problems are the starting point of academic writing
  - Something in the topic area is unknown or puzzling or controversial
  - Something in the evidence seems inconsistent or surprising
  - Theory X doesn’t seem to explain this problem
  - Scholar A disagrees with Scholar B about X
  - Previous research confirms X but doesn’t explain Y
  - Most people think X but I’m thinking Y because
- The writer’s thesis, which contributes something new to the conversation, grows out of a longer process of wrestling with a question
- The kinds of questions asked and the processes for wrestling with a question differ from discipline to discipline
- Learning to write in a major field means learning how that discipline conducts inquiry how it asks questions, poses hypotheses, gathers and analyzes evidence and makes arguments
## Bizup’s BEAM Framework

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kind of Source</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
<th>Example from literature</th>
<th>Example from sociology</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>B</strong> Background sources</td>
<td>Any source used in a paper to provide context or background. Intended to be informative and uncontested.</td>
<td>Encyclopedia article on evangelism</td>
<td>Current statistics on college-level drinking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Biography of the Brontes</td>
<td>News stories about college-age drinking</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Books or articles on the history/culture of a literary period</td>
<td>Current cultural artifacts about drinking (ads, movies)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>[Note: If you are analyzing bias or controversy in these sources, they become “exhibit” sources rather than “background”!]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>E</strong> Exhibit sources (particulars from exhibits become evidence)</td>
<td>Documents, data, field observations, lab findings, visual images, statistical arrays, natural phenomena, or other artifacts/objects that the writer analyzes. Sources on which you have exercised your own critical thinking to make an argument.</td>
<td>The text of Jane Eyre ('exhibit')</td>
<td>Audiotapes of focus group interviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Contemporary cultural documents and reviews (exhibit)</td>
<td>Results of questionnaire data</td>
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<td>Quotations, paraphrases, or other textual citations from Jane Eyre or contemporary documents (evidence)</td>
<td>Observations of gendered drinking behavior in bars or parties</td>
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<tr>
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<td>“Results” section of an empirical report</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A</strong> Argument sources (typically peer reviewed academic articles or the work of other professional experts)</td>
<td>The conversation of critical views and relevant scholarship that you are joining.</td>
<td>Views of other scholars who have written about Jane’s marriage to Rochester. Typically, you identify a view that you are “pushing against” in some way.</td>
<td>“Literature review” section of empirical report</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Summarizes previous research on gender socialization and college-age drinking behavior and aims to identify a gap in the current knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>M</strong> Method or ‘theory’ sources</td>
<td>References to the theoretical or methodological lens being used. These authors have usually not addressed your research question.</td>
<td>References to Foucault, Edward Said, Judith Butler, etc. Specific references to theory or method—feminism, new historicism, etc.</td>
<td>Competing sociological theories about gender socialization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Competing methodologies for conducting this research</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Adapted from Bizup, Joseph. “BEAM: A Rhetorical Vocabulary for Teaching Research-Based Writing” *Rhetoric Review*, 2008 27(1) 72-86.