

## **Context / Background information**

**Oxford Reference Online** <http://www.oxfordreference.com/>

Entries in encyclopedias published by Oxford Univ. Press; authoritative alternative to Wikipedia

## **Library catalogs**

**OBIS** : <http://obis.oberlin.edu/>Catalog of books and ebooks available at Oberlin

**OhioLINK** : <http://olc1.ohiolink.edu/search/>Catalog of books and more at other Ohio libraries, many of which you can request; delivered in ~3-5 days

**Primary source keywords:** oral history, personal narrative, memoir, journal, diary, art, photographs, memory, memorial, motion pictures, film

## **Tools to know about**

**Google Scholar** <http://scholar.google.com>

Search engine of scholarly resources from all fields, including some freely available items. 'Cited By' links are especially useful; never pay for articles, check journal finder or use ILLiad to order

**ILLiad** <http://illiad.oberlin.edu/illiad/logon.html>

Inter-library loan system; request articles that we don't have available and books that are not available in OhioLINK

## **Databases for journal articles**

**Academic Search Complete** – large multidisciplinary database; scholarly and popular sources

**America: History and Life** -- articles on the history and culture of the United States

**Bibliography of Native Americans** – broad range of sources, largely scholarly, on Native American “  
History and Culture

**Communications and Mass Media Complete** – journals from many fields relating to media, journalism, film, television and the Internet

**Film and Television Literature Index** – journals on film, television and broadcast arts

**Gender Studies Database** – gender-engaged scholarship from many disciplines

**HAPI: Hispanic American Periodicals Index** -- journals on Latin America, the Caribbean, and  
Hispanics/Latinos in the US

**Legal Collection** – scholarly and professional publications in law

**MLA International Bibliography** – journals in the study of language, literature, folklore and linguistics

**Socindex** -- sociology journals

**Urban Studies Abstracts** -- urban studies journals from many fields

**Worldwide Political Science Abstracts** – politics journals

## **Databases and Digital Collections with primary source material**

[American Periodicals \(1740-1940\)](#) scanned periodicals published between 1740 and 1940, including special interest and general magazines, literary and professional journals, children's and women's magazines and more

[ArtStor](#) over 1 million images of artwork of many forms covering broad time periods and geographies, includes art photography

[Ethnic Newswatch](#) (1959-current) newspapers, magazines and journals of the ethnic, minority and native press in America

[iPoll](#) (1935-current) searchable public opinion polls and poll data at the question level from a wide variety of polling sources

[LGBT Life](#) full text of more than one hundred current or historically significant Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender journals, magazines and newspapers

[Periodicals Archive Online](#) (1800-1990s) – hundreds of journals in humanities and social sciences

[ProQuest Congressional Publications](#) - Information about and by U.S. Congress, including hearings, reports, documents, legislative histories, and the Congressional Record.

[Reader's Guide Retrospective](#) (1890-1982) and [Reader's Guide Abstracts](#) (1982-current) -- indexes to popular magazines and periodicals in the US

[Social Explorer](#) current and historical US demographic data presented with a mapping tool that offers custom map output

## **Online newspaper collections**

[19<sup>th</sup> Century US Newspapers \(1801-1899\)](#) Wide range of cities across the US

[Access Newspaper Archives \(1660-2013\)](#) Papers with smaller or moderate circulation from every state

### **Factiva**

Search engine of current newspapers from across the world, in all languages (~1980s-current)

Selected important full-text historical newspapers:

[The Chicago Defender](#) 1909-1975 African-American newspaper of national importance

[Los Angeles Times](#) 1881-1992

[New York Times](#) 1851-2012

## Chicago Style Resources

Quick guide: OWL – Online Writing Lab at Purdue  
<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/717/01/>

In print: The Chicago manual of style (16<sup>th</sup> ed.) / Chicago : University of Chicago Press, 2010  
Main Ref Desk Z253 .U69 2010  
(additional copies also available to check out)

Online: <http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/>

## 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](mailto:jstarkey@oberlin.edu)
- Contact any librarian: [reference@oberlin.edu](mailto:reference@oberlin.edu)
- Drop in at the Research Desk

## Bizup's BEAM Framework

Kind of Source	Explanation	<b>Example from literature</b> <i>How are we to regard Jane 's marriage to Rochester— liberation or loss?</i>	<b>Example from sociology</b> <i>How does gender socialization impact college-age drinking behaviors and attitudes?</i>
<b>B</b> <b>Background sources</b>	Any source used in a paper to provide context or background  Intended to be informative and uncontested	Encyclopedia article on evangelism  Biography of the Brontes  Books or articles on the history/ culture of a literary period  [Note: If you are analyzing bias or controversy in these sources, they become “exhibit” sources rather than “background”!]	Current statistics on college- level drinking  News stories about college-age drinking  Current cultural artifacts about drinking (ads, movies)
<b>E</b> <b>Exhibit sources (particulars from exhibits become evidence)</b>	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	The text of Jane Evre ('exhibit')  Contemporary cultural documents and reviews (exhibit)  Quotations, paraphrases, or other textual citations from Jane Evre or contemporary documents (evidence)	Audiotapes of focus group interviews  Results of questionnaire data  Observations of gendered drinking behavior in bars or parties  “Results” section of an empirical report
<b>A</b> <b>Argument sources (typically peer reviewed academic articles or the work of other professional experts)</b>	.The conversation of critical views and relevant scholarship that you are joining	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	“Literature review” section of empirical report  Summarizes previous research on gender socialization and college-age drinking behavior and alms to identify a gap in the current knowledge
<b>M</b> <b>Method or 'theory sources</b>	References to the theoretical or methodological lens being used  These authors have usually not addressed your research question	References to Foucault, Edward Said, Judith Butler, etc.  Specific references to theory or method—feminism, new historicism, etc.	Competing sociological theories about gender socialization  Competing methodologies for conducting this research

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