

POLITICS 403
Selected Research Resources
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LIBRARY RESEARCH SERVICES

Research Appointments

Meet with a librarian to discuss research strategies and sources

Interlibrary Loan (ILLiad)

Get books and articles, etc. that aren't available at Oberlin

RefWorks

Create your own database - collect, organize, edit citations and quickly create bibliographies

MAJOR POLITICS DATABASES

- PAIS International (Public Affairs Information Service)
 - concerned with "all areas of public concern and potential legislation"
- Worldwide Political Science Abstracts
 - the largest database focused on political science
- International Political Science Abstracts

MULTIDISCIPLINARY DATABASES

Summon

Searches broadly across the wide spectrum of library owned and leased content – books, articles, images, etc.

WorldCat

Like OBIS and the OhioLINK Library Catalog, but this catalog indicates holdings of libraries of all sizes and types (public, academic, special) all over the world.

Web of Science (formerly Web of Knowledge)

A multidisciplinary database with special features including: references to conference proceedings; cited reference searching; and related records searching.

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

Includes books, articles from scholarly publishers, and materials deposited by scholars in college and university repositories.

THINK TANKS

Research reports and policy papers can be found through some library databases like PAIS International, etc., as well as the organizations' web sites.

The library at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government created an excellent guide – includes directories, a scoped search engine, recent publications about think tanks, and more:

http://guides.library.harvard.edu/hks/think_tank_search

CONFERENCE PAPERS & PROCEEDINGS

Not all conferences publish their proceedings; of those that do, some proceedings are packaged and sold like books, others are made freely available online.

You'll find references and access to full text in various places:

- subject-oriented databases
- Web of Science
- Papers First
- Proceedings First
- Google Scholar
- WorldCat
- Summon
- association web sites
 - e.g. American Political Science Association

DISSERTATIONS

Can be helpful for bibliographies as well as content.

- ProQuest Dissertations and Theses
 - Provides references to dissertations from most U.S. institutions and many in other countries
 - full text provided for a selection of titles
- Open Access Theses & Dissertations > <http://oatd.org/>
 - full text of openly accessible dissertations