

Collier Library – Pathfinder

FOREIGN AREA STUDIES

SCOPE: The purpose of this pathfinder is to introduce some of the resources available in the Collier Library on **FOREIGN AREA STUDIES**. The various types of library materials useful in research are described along with some examples of each type. This pathfinder is not a comprehensive listing of sources, but it is intended to be a starting point for answering questions about regions and countries from which students can begin their research according to their specific needs.

BASIC INTRODUCTION OR OVERVIEW MATERIAL can be found in:

U.S. Central Intelligence Agency. **World Factbook**. (annual).
Ref G 122 .U56a
Also available at <http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/>

U.S. Department of State. **Background Notes**. 3 volumes. Irregular.
Also available at http://www.state.gov/www/background_notes
Ref G 59 .U5

U.S. Department of the Army. **(Individual country's name), a country study**.
Gov. Doc. D101.22: (series)

BOOKS ON FOREIGN AREA STUDIES can be located by using some of the following SUBJECT HEADINGS that appear in [UNACAT](#), an online catalog of the book collection:

- AREA STUDIES
(Name of country or region or continent)
- § Bibliography
- § Biography
- § Description and travel
- § Encyclopedias
- § Economic conditions
- § History
- § Politics and government
- § Social conditions

OTHER SUBJECT HEADINGS can be identified by using:

Library of Congress Subject Headings (annual)
(Located in the REFERENCE ROOM near the periodical indexes)

REFERENCE TOOLS which may be useful in **FOREIGN AREA STUDIES** that are found in the REFERENCE ROOM are as follows:

LITERATURE GUIDES may provide an evaluative discussion of the methods and materials for doing research in a selected area:

McIlwaine, John. **Africa: A Guide to Reference Material**. 1993.
Ref Z 3501 .M3

BIBLIOGRAPHIES list books, periodical articles, and/or other materials by subject or by author.

Kagan, Alfred. **Reference Guide to Africa: A Bibliography of Sources.** 1999.
Ref Z 3501 .K15

Middle East in Conflict: A Historical Bibliography. c1985.
Ref DS 62.4 .M53

Paul, Barbara Dotts. **The Germans After World War II: An English-Language Bibliography.** 1990.
Ref Z 2240.3 .P38

The Rise and Fall of the Soviet Union: A Selected Bibliography of Sources in English. 1992.
Ref Z 2510.3 .R57

Schaffner, Bradley L. **Bibliography of the Soviet Union, Its Predecessors and Successors.** 1995.
Ref Z 2506 .S3

ENCYCLOPEDIAS AND DICTIONARIES provide brief definitions or concise overviews of the topic, often followed by lists of further references.

Buckley, Sandra. **Encyclopedia of Contemporary Japanese Culture.** 2002.
Ref DS 822.5 .E516

The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Australia. 1994.
Ref DU 90 .C364

Cambridge Encyclopedia of Latin America and the Caribbean. 1992.
Ref F 1406 .C36

The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Russia and the Former Soviet Union. Second edition. 1994.
Ref DK 14 .C35

China: A Historical and Cultural Dictionary. 1998.
Ref DS 733 .C58523

Cook, Bernard A. **Europe Since 1945: An Encyclopedia.** 2 volumes. 2001.
Ref D 1051 .E97

Dictionary of Development: Third World Economy, Environment, Society. 2 volumes. 1990.
Ref HC 59.7 .D513

Encyclopedia of Africa South of the Sahara. 4 volumes. 1997.
Ref DT 351 .E53

Encyclopedia of Contemporary British Culture. 1999.
Ref DA 589.4 .E53

Encyclopedia of Contemporary French Culture. 1998.
Ref DC 33.7 .E53

Encyclopedia of German Culture. 1999.
Ref DD 290.26 .E53

Encyclopedia of Contemporary Italian Culture. 2002.

Ref DG 450 .E53

Encyclopedia of Government and Politics. 2 volumes. 1992.

Ref JA 61 .C66

Encyclopedia of the Modern Middle East. c1996.

Ref DS 43 .E53

Frederic, Louis. **Japan Encyclopedia.** 2002.

Ref DS 821 .F73

Frycht, Richard (ed.). **Encyclopedia of Eastern Europe.** 2000.

Ref DJK 6 .E53

Gascoigne, Bamber. **The Encyclopedia of Britain.** 1993.

Ref DA 27.5 .G37

Gunson, Phil. **The Dictionary of Contemporary Politics of South America.** 1989.

Ref JL 1851 .A25 G86

Hiro, Dilip. **Dictionary of the Middle East.** 1996.

Ref DS 43 .H57

Held, Joseph. **Dictionary of East European History Since 1945.** 1994.

Ref DJK 50 .H43

Jupp, James (ed.). **The Australian People.** 2001.

Ref DU 120 .A718

Lalor, Brian (ed.). **The Encyclopedia of Ireland.** 2003.

Ref DA 906 .E5

Minahan, James. **Encyclopedia of the Stateless Nations: Ethnic and National Groups Around the World.** 4 volumes. 2002.

Ref D 860 .M56

The Oxford Companion to Australian History. 1998.

Ref DU 110 .O938

The Pacific Islands: An Encyclopedia. 2000.

Ref DU 17 .P3

Political Encyclopedia of the Middle East. 1999.

Ref DS 62.8 .P64

Wilson, Andrew, and Nina Bachkatov. **Russia and the Commonwealth A to Z.** 1992.

Ref DK 286 .W5513

Xiao-bin Ji. **Facts About China.** C2003.

Ref DS 706 .F25

Ziring, Lawrence. **The Middle East: A Political Dictionary.** c1992.
Ref DS 61 .Z58

DIRECTORIES contain names, addresses, and telephone numbers of persons, organizations, and institutions.

Degenhardt, Henry. **Revolutionary and Dissident Movements: An International Guide.** Second edition. 1988.
Ref JC 328.3 .D43

Europa World Year Book. Volume 1—International Organizations. (annual).
Ref JN 1 .E85

A Guide to Information at the United Nations. 1995.
Ref JX 1977 .A39

Martindale-Hubbell International Law Directory. 3 volumes. 1996.
Ref K 68 .M37

Yearbook of International Organizations. Volume 1. 1993/1994.
Ref JX 1904 .A5

ALMANACS OR STATISTICAL SOURCES provide miscellaneous facts and data.

The Economist Book of Vital World Statistics. 1990.
Ref HC 59 .W634

Handbook of Industrial Statistics, 1992. c1993.
Ref HC 59 .H2934

International Historical Statistics: Africa, Asia & Oceania, 1750-1988. 2003.
Ref HA 4675 .M55

Mitchell, Brian R. **International Historical Statistics: Europe, 1750-1988.** 2003.
Ref HA 1107 .M5

Munro, David, and Alan J. Day. **A World Record of Major Conflict Areas.** 1990.
Ref D 842 .M86

Social Indicators of Development. (latest edition).
Ref HC 59.69 .S63

Statistical Abstract of the World. 1994.
Ref HA 155 .S7

Statistical Yearbook (UNESCO). (latest edition).
Ref AZ 361 .U45

United Nations. **Demographic Yearbook.** (latest edition).
Ref HA 17 .D45

United Nations. **Statistical Yearbook.** (latest edition).
Ref HA 12.5 .U63

The Washington Almanac of International Trade and Business. 1996/1997.

Ref JX 1705 .A152

World Resources: A Report by the World Resources Institute and the International Institute for Environment and Development. (latest edition).

Ref HC 59 .W6675

World Tables. 1991.

Ref HC 59 .W669

HANDBOOKS AND MANUALS cover broad subjects in a brief, concise manner and may include odd bits of information about a variety of topics. They are also referred to as companion or compendium.

Baedeker's (name of country) **Travel Guide Series.** (Note: See UNACAT for exact call numbers).

Ref D-DU

A Handbook of Korea. 1993.

Ref DS 902 .H2864

Hoover's Handbook of World Business. 1995/1996.

Ref HF 3010 .H65

Morrison, Donald G. **Black Africa: A Comparative Handbook.** c1988.

Ref DT 352.8 .M67

Morrison, Terri. **Dun & Bradstreet's Guide to Doing Business Around the World.** 1997.

Ref HF 1416 .M78

Mostyn, Trevor. **Major Political Events in Iran, Iraq, and the Arabian Peninsula, 1945-1990.** c1991.

Ref DS 326 .M64

The Oxford Companion to Politics of the World. 2001.

Ref JA 61 .O95

YEARBOOKS cover the happenings of the year in a particular area of interest. Yearbooks may also be called annuals.

Europa World Year Book. 2 volumes. (annual).

Ref JN 1 .E85

Statesman's Year Book. (annual).

Ref JA 51 .S7

BIOGRAPHICAL SOURCES contain articles about the lives and works of various individuals.

Current Biography Yearbook. 1940- (annual).

Ref CT 100 .C8

Encyclopedia of World Biography. 17 volumes. c1998.

Ref CT 103 .E56

The International Who's Who. 1965- (annual).

Ref CT 120 .I44

An ATLAS is a book of maps or charts that may include either a specific region or the entire world. It may also contain thematic information for the subject region on such topics as climate, geology, vegetation, or population.

Benewick, Robert. **The State of China Atlas.** 1999.
Ref G 2305 .B46

Hammond Atlas of the Middle East. 1998.
Ref G 2205 .H3

National Geographic Society. **Atlas of the World.** 1999.
Ref G 1021 .N38 1999 Atlas Stand

Oxford Atlas of the World. 2003.
Ref G 1021 .A7545

OTHER PERTINENT REFERENCE TOOLS

Facts on File. 1968- (weekly)
Periodical Index Section

Gale Country and World Rankings Reporter. 1995.
Ref HA 154 .G35

Kurian, George T. **Global Data Locator.** 1997.
Ref HA 36 .K87

Kurian, George T. **The Illustrated Book of World Rankings.** 2001.
Ref HA 155 .K87

Monthly Catalog of United States Government Publications (commonly known as the GPO Monthly Catalog).
Gov. Doc. GP 3.8:

The World in Figures. New edition. 1988.
Ref HA 161 .W67

INDEXES AND ABSTRACTS that will help locate periodical articles and other papers on **FOREIGN AREA STUDIES** are:

[ABI/INFORM Global](#) (online database)
[African-American History and Culture](#) (online database)
[INFOTRAC Web](#) (online database)
[Newspaper Source](#) (online database)
[New York Times Index](#) (periodical index)
PAIS International in Print (periodical index)
Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature (periodical index)
[Sociological Abstracts](#) (online database)
[Women's Resources International](#) (online database)

PERIODICALS held by the library or accessible through the library's databases can be identified in the PERIODICALS HOLDINGS LIST, at <<http://www2.una.edu/agordon/journal.asp>>.

A few frequently used periodicals in **FOREIGN AREA STUDIES** are:

Asian Survey	1970-
Current History	1925-
Diplomatic History	1991-
Foreign Affairs	1928-
Middle East Policy	1992-
Orbis	1968-
U.S. News & World Report	1933-
U.S. Department of State Dispatch	1990-
World Press Review	1980-
World Politics	1948-

INTERNET SITES are informational sources that include links to find statistics, embassies, and official country websites. Note that none of these sources are officially endorsed by the State Department nor do they represent official U.S. foreign or domestic policy.

General Country Resources

U.S. Department of State: Regional Bureaus

<http://www.state.gov/www/regions.html>

Country Background Notes

http://www.state.gov/www/background_notes/index.html

Library of Congress: Country Studies

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/cshome.html>

CIA World Factbook

<http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html>

<http://www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html>

Business Resources

Country Economic and Trade Policy Reports

http://www.state.gov/www/issues/economic/trade_reports/index.html

[Internet Resources Collection: International Business \(UNA\)](#)

[Internet Resources Collection: Market Guides by Country](#)

Statistics Resources

U.S. Census Bureau: International Database

<http://www.census.gov/ftp/pub/ipc/www/>

Bureau of Labor Statistics: Links to Statistical Departments of Other Countries

<http://www.bls.gov/bls/other.htm>

Embassies

Embassies of Other Countries in Washington, D.C.

<http://www.embassy.org/embassies/index.html>

State Department: Key Officers at Foreign Service Posts

<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/biog/>

Places to Look for Official Country Websites

Bureau of Labor Statistics: Links to Statistical Departments of Other Countries

<http://www.bls.gov/bls/other.htm>

Foreign Resources on the Web (University of Michigan Documents Center)

<http://www.lib.umich.edu/govdocs/foreign.html>

Political Resources on the Net

<http://www.politicalresources.net/>

Governments on the WWW

<http://www.gksoft.com/govt/en/>

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