

SOCIOLOGY RESOURCES IN THE HESBURGH LIBRARY

Why you should care...

Every semester, you will have to write at least one research paper. Deciding on a topic and/or finding resources for that paper can often be difficult, especially when you are first getting started. That's where this introduction to Hesburgh Library's collections comes into play: **to direct you to the plethora of resources at your disposal in Hesburgh Library!!**

Tip #1: Use the Encyclopedias!

- One of the best ways to narrow, broaden or find background information on a topic is to consult one of the sociology or social science encyclopedias. Encyclopedia articles will give you a broad overview of your area of interest and may provide references to other sources of reliable information. Some encyclopedias that could be of help for your classes are:
 1. [Encyclopedia of Child Abuse](#)
 2. [Encyclopedia of Marriage and the Family](#)
 3. [Encyclopedia of Social History](#)
 4. [Encyclopedia of Social Movements](#)
 5. [Encyclopedia on Terrorism](#)
 6. [Statistical Handbook on the American Family](#)

Tip #2: Use other Reference Materials found at the library!

- The encyclopedias are not the only reference materials found in Hesburgh Library and online that will help you focus your topic and/or give you some vital information on variety of different subjects. Listed below are some other resources that you may find useful:
 1. Government Documents (see Federal Portals below.)
 2. European Union and United Nations Materials
 3. Current Periodicals
 4. Indexes and Abstracts
 5. Statistical Abstracts
 6. Books & journals in Soc – shelved on the 9th floor of Hesburgh (HM-HX).
 7. Data bases ([ISPCR](#) is one of the world's largest archives of research and instructional data in the social sciences. It includes many data sets on various topics.)
 8. Dictionaries in Sociology
 9. The library catalog and ejournals online

Tip #3: Know the difference between...

- A scholarly (refereed) journal and a popular or trade journal.
- The kind of information you can get from an entry in an encyclopedia in Sociology versus a dictionary in Sociology.

Tip #4: Ask a Librarian!

- Hesburgh Library has a lot of great reference librarians who are more than happy to assist you with your research. All you have to do to get their help is go to the Reference Desk on the main floor, call 631-6258, or email <http://asklib.nd.edu/>.
- The specially assigned reference librarian to the Sociology Department is **Kyle Willis**. You can reach him in his office (208A Hesburgh Library); by phone (1-8136); or by email (kwillis1@nd.edu). Don't hesitate to contact him with any questions!

Tip #5: Do not overlook programs for creating bibliographies (e.g., [RefWorks](#)).

Electronic Resources in Sociology

Be sure to use “^{Beta} Catalog Plus” at the library home page, the latest way to search the ND catalog.

Scholarly Resources

[Electronic Resources Gateway Page at ND Library Site](#) (lib.nd.edu). Through this page you can access many electronic indexes, reference materials, books, and e-journals. Research by topic – this will help you identify the different databases pertinent to your topic. (Use “advanced search” in all the databases. Get in habit of clicking on “Related Articles.”)

For sociological research the three most useful databases for getting started are:

1. [Sociological Abstracts](#): A large database that includes not only bibliographical information on published materials, but also on conference proceedings and dissertations.
2. [Web of Science](#): A valuable resource because it cross-indexes citations in articles allowing you to search for articles that contain a citation for another article. (Use as your second or third source)
3. [Google Scholar](#): is useful for getting started, but be sure references generated from Google Scholar are reputable. This is international, so you may want to specify the U.S. if that is all you want.

[America, history and life \(EBSCO\)](#) Coverage: 1954-present: Provides abstracts of scholarly literature on the history and culture of the United States and Canada from prehistoric times to the present.

[Annual Review of Sociology](#) publishes commissioned literature reviews and is a very good place to start for finding references.

[Rand Research Briefs](#) include information on policy-oriented summaries of individual published, peer-reviewed documents or of a body of published work.

[Ingenta Connect](#): Ingenta is the world's largest website for the search and delivery of research articles.

[JSTOR](#) is probably the largest on-line database of full-text articles that have previously been published in journals. JSTOR also includes articles from the government and the National Science Foundation. (More archival or historical than contemporary)

[Left index \(EBSCO\)](#) Coverage: 1982- present: Provides citations and abstracts, with some full text, to publications from leftist and radical media worldwide since 1982, covering topics such as the labor movement, ecology and the environment, race and ethnicity, social and cultural theory, sociology, art and aesthetics, philosophy, history, education, law, and globalization.

Other Resources

[Academic Search Premier](#): Academic Search Premier provides full text for over 4,700 academic, social sciences, humanities, general science, education and multi-cultural journals. This database is updated daily on EBSCOhost.

[Expanded Academic ASAP](#) provides indexing, abstracts, and selected full text for 3,500+ scholarly journals and general interest periodicals embracing all academic disciplines (citations only for *The New York Times*). (Professor Lute's favorite!)

[Lexis-Nexis Academic](#) includes comprehensive access to government, news, business, and legal information.

[Social Explorer](#) is a database of demographic information of America. It contains maps and reports from a variety of studies and censuses.

[Worldcat](#) is a global catalog of library collections. If you want a book, article, film, etc. but ND's library doesn't have it, try searching Worldcat.

[Polling the Nations](#) allows you to search for specific poll questions pertaining to your topic.

[Proquest Historical Newspapers](#) offers full-text and full-image articles for *newspapers* dating back to the 19th century.

[World News Connection](#) is an online *news* service that offers international *news* and information, especially local media sources.

Federal Portals

US	usa.gov
Census	census.gov
President	whitehouse.gov
House	house.gov
Senate	senate.gov
Supreme Court	supremecourt.gov
Bureau of Labor Statistics	bls.gov
United Nations	un.org
European Union	europa.eu (click on “en” for English language)