Asian Americans

**REFERENCE BOOKS:**
Reference Books are useful for overviews of a topic. The information is concise and often highlights specific aspects of a subject. Reference books must be used in the library; plan to take notes or photocopy the information. Be sure to use the indexes to locate specific names or topics.


**CIRCULATING BOOKS**
Circulating books can be checked out. They are found in the library’s book stacks. Books develop a topic in detail. You can search the Library Catalog to find books on your subject. Try some of these words and phrases by doing a Keyword search or a Subject search:

- Asian Americans
- Japanese Americans
- South Asia Americans
- Korean Americans
  - East Indian Americans
  - Pakistani Americans
  - Bangladeshi Americans
- Southeast Asian Americans
  - Vietnamese Americans
  - Cambodian Americans
  - Filipino Americans
  - Hmong Americans
  - Thai Americans
- Chinese Americans
- Tibetan Americans
- Pacific Islander Americans
- United States Emigration and Immigration
- Asian Americans Cultural Assimilation
- Asian Americans Ethnic Identity
- Asian American History

**E-BOOKS:** Use the E-Book Collection tab on the Library’s Database page. *Gale Virtual Reference Library* is an excellent resource for finding thousands of full-text articles from electronic reference books such as *Encyclopedia of Race and Racism, Encyclopedia of World Cultures, Dictionary of American History*, and *American Decades* and more. Additional articles can be found in the *Infobase eBook* collection.
Databases

Magazine, newspaper and journal articles provide current information on your topic. The following are a sample of the many databases that the library carries. Save yourself some time; send articles to your e-mail account, and read them later. You can also search the databases from home, or any off-campus location. You will be asked to enter your name and seven-digit college ID number.

**Diversity Studies Collection**

This database contains articles from over 150 journals. These articles explore cultural differences, contributions and influences. An **Advanced Search** will allow you to combine keywords to locate articles on specific aspects of a topic, such as, **Asian Americans** AND **ethnic identity**. On the other hand, a **Subject Guide Search** can help narrow a broad subject like **Asian Americans** by providing a list of subdivisions, such as **social aspects**. From the list of results, you can limit your search using options in the left hand column, such as limiting to articles from Academic Journals, or searching additional word(s) using the “Search within results” box.

**Academic Search Premier**

The contents of thousands of magazines, academic journals and newspapers can be searched. Use the default, Advanced Search to narrow or broaden your search by combining words and phrases using Boolean operators like AND (to narrow) or OR (to broaden). For example, if you were researching the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II, you could create a search by typing **Japanese Americans** in the first search box and **internment or resettlement** in the second box. Search results can be refined by using options from the left column such as Publication Date, or Scholarly Journals. When you click “update,” search results are reduced to articles meeting all of the criteria you selected. As you search, notice that useful links to web sites and news sites may appear in the right hand column of the results screen.

**America: History and Life**

This database provides an index of literature covering the history and culture of the United States and Canada from prehistory to the present. Accessing and search strategies suggested for Academic Search Premier above can be used with this database.

**US History Collection**

This database provides articles about events in U.S. history, contemporary viewpoints, and scholarly work in the field. Accessing and search strategies suggested for the Diversity Studies Collection above can be used with this database.

**Biography in Context**

Look for information on the lives famous Asian Americans here. You can enter the name of an individual in the **Search** box. If you do not have a particular person in mind, click on **Browse People**, and select “Asian Americans” in the **Choose a Category** box.
DATABASES (continued)

Issues and Controversies
This database specializes in covering current controversial issues. It provides background information on many topics, as well as related news events; statistics; tables; graphs; pro/con arguments; primary documents and much more. You may search general or specific topics, such as affirmative action, or sweatshops, etc.

Opposing Viewpoints in Context
Articles from reference books, magazines, academic journals and more can be found here. You can do a basic search by typing keywords such as affirmative action in the search box at the top. Notice that the results come from different content types such as the Opposing Viewpoints series, Academic Journals, Images, News, Magazines, Reference books and Websites. You can use the “Search within results” box on the left of the screen to add terms that will narrow your search. Use the Advance Search for more complex searches such as Asian Americans AND ethnic identity.

Web Sites
Beware of the Web. Unless you are an expert on your topic, it may be difficult to find a reliable site using Google. Click on the library’s Web Evaluation page for help with evaluating web pages or to find web sites that have already been evaluated.

Specific Web Sites Related to Asian Americans
http://www.chcp.org/ Chinese Historical & Cultural Project
http://www.asian-nation.org/index.shtml Asian Nation
http://www.asianamericanvoices.org/ Asian American Voices
http://www.pewsocialtrends.org/asianamericans/ Pew Research Center
http://www.census.gov/ 2010 Census
http://www.cetel.org/res.html CET – Asian American History

ALWAYS REMEMBER TO ASK A LIBRARIAN IF YOU NEED HELP:

- In developing a search strategy appropriate to your assignment and thesis.
- To evaluate your sources and to suggest additional research options.
- For assistance with the Works Cited format.