



Immigration

➡ BOOKS:

Looking for books on your subject is an excellent way to get started with research. You will consult the [Library Catalog](#) to find books, videos, DVDs, etc. for information on your topic. If a book is located in the Reference area, it must be used in the library; plan to take notes or photocopy the information. Most books, however, are located in the book stacks; these books can be checked-out for three weeks.

Reference Books

Reference books are useful for overviews of a topic. The information is concise, authoritative and often highlights specific aspects of a subject. Getting started with your research is easier after reading a couple of pages from some of the following books:

Encyclopedia of American Immigration

Ref JV 6465 .E53 2001 Covers all aspects of the subject

Immigration in U.S. History

Ref JV 6450 .I565 2006 General topics and specific immigrant groups

U.S. Immigration and Migration

Ref JV 6465 .U85 2004 History, primary sources, biographies, etc.

Circulating books

Circulating books can be checked out. They are found in the library's bookstacks. Books develop a topic in detail. Try some of these words and phrases in the subject search box in the online catalog:

Emigration and immigration	Immigrants – United States
Emigration and immigration - California	Children of immigrants
Emigration and immigration - Mexico	Women immigrants

You can also combine concepts by doing a keyword search. For example, type *immigrants and education* in the keyword search box to find books that have information on both these topics

➡ 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.

Issues & Controversies

This database specializes in current controversial issues. It gives overviews of topics, statistics, tables and graphs, history, pro/con arguments and more.

You can search general or specific topics, such as *immigration*, or *border patrols*; terms can also be combined, such as *immigration and employment*.

Expanded Academic ASAP

The contents of thousands of magazines and academic journals can be searched through either an advanced or subject search. An [Advanced Search](#) will allow you to combine keywords to locate articles on specific aspects of a topic, such as, *Immigration AND economic aspects* or *Mexican Americans AND California*. You may also want to limit results of your search to “documents with full text” by putting a check mark in the box. On the other hand, a [Browse Subjects](#) search can help you narrow a broad subject like *globalization* by providing a list of subdivisions such as *economic aspects*. From your list of results, you can also “limit to Full-text” articles and you can add more keywords in the “Refine Result” box.

LexisNexis Academic

For current news events, whether local or distant, try this database. It contains full-text articles from U.S. and international newspapers. It is especially useful for finding articles from [The New York Times](#), the [San Francisco Chronicle](#), and the [San Jose Mercury News](#). You can link directly to these papers from the library’s database page. If you wish to search the entire database, click on the LexisNexis Academic link.



WEBSITES

Beware of the Web. If you’re not an expert on your topic, don’t just search using Google or Yahoo. Start by using the selective search engines listed under [Best Websites](#) on the Library’s website. To get there from the Library homepage, click on [Research Aids](#). These search engines will lead you to websites that have been evaluated by subject specialists. You’ll get fewer, but better quality, sites.

IPL2 (Internet Public Library)

This is a subject index to Internet resources. It also links to additional resources by subject, newspapers and magazines, special collections leading to reference resources, literary criticism and help with writing research papers.

Google

Google is loaded with information – some excellent, some fraudulent. Just remember that you must evaluate what you find here. Rather than doing a general search, try some of Google’s more sophisticated search possibilities, such as [Google Scholar](#) or Advanced search.

Google Advanced Search

Use the “Search within a site or domain” box to limit your search to an educational (enter .edu) or government (enter .gov) site. Articles from educational or government sites may have more accuracy and authority.

Use the “File type” box to find a PowerPoint presentation on your topic. Click on “any format” and select “Microsoft PowerPoint”.

ALWAYS REMEMBER TO ASK A LIBRARIAN IF YOU NEED HELP WITH:

- Developing a search strategy appropriate to your assignment and thesis.
- Evaluating your sources and finding additional research options.
- [Citing sources](#)