RESEARCH AT THE USC LIBRARIES

Research & Fellowships Week 2016
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What are you working on?

Image by flickr user Toshiyuki IMAI
Subject Librarians and Libraries

Research and sources can be very different for different disciplines and subjects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Librarian</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Slavic Languages &amp; Literature</td>
<td>Anthony Anderson</td>
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<td>Social Sciences Data</td>
<td>Katharin Peter</td>
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<td>Social Work</td>
<td>Melanee Vicedo</td>
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<td>Sociology</td>
<td>Melanee Vicedo</td>
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<td>Spanish and Portuguese</td>
<td>Barbara Jon Robinson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish Languages &amp; Literatures</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spatial Sciences</td>
<td>Katharin Peter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports Studies</td>
<td>Stacy Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Television</td>
<td>Stephen Lawrence Hanson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Television</td>
<td>Sandra M. Garcia-Myers</td>
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Research Guides

What does this search do?

Offers the most comprehensive coverage of the USC Libraries’ physical and electronic holdings. Includes millions of full-text journal articles and e-books.

See Also

Google Scholar

WorldCat

USC Libraries Search User Guide

Archives | Databases | Journals | Research Guides

USC Libraries
PLANNING FOR RESEARCH
Resources about research

- Organizing Your Social Sciences Research Paper
- Writing a Research Proposal and Research Designs
- Organizing Research for Arts and Humanities Papers and Theses
- Writing a Literature Review
Scope and Method

The scope of a research project should fit into the real constraints of time, funding, and accessibility

- To convince funders or grant/scholarship committees that it’s feasible
- To allow yourself to explore a topic in the space allotted
- Talk with an advisor or look at examples of successful projects
- Make a timeline of the research. Does it look realistic?

Methodology should be doable and appropriate to the research question. Ask yourself: what do you want to know, and what would be the best way to get that information?

Example (of a proposal that was revised many times after this draft....)
Timeline – work backwards!

Background
What are you interested in?
What made you interested?
What has already been written about?

Research
Topical research
People research
Location research

Writing
Outlining
Drafting

Final Proposal
Feedback
Editing

USC Libraries
Research guides – look for similar studies or literature reviews on your topic in subject databases

Can you figure out who the top scholars or experts are in your field?

How about USC faculty?

- Academic Departments
- Research Centers

Don’t be afraid to contact them!

Country Reports - get a sense of the place you’ll be doing research (if in another country)
Resources while abroad and after graduating

While abroad, you still have access to all electronic library resources, in addition to document delivery.

Libraries may be very different in other countries.

Services for alumni
Open access resources
Google Scholar
Questions?

Via http://www.quickmeme.com/meme/3tsmgj (this is not true)