



A Selection of Recommended Web Sites for Research and/or Teaching

Behavioral and Social Sciences November 2010

Anthropology

- American Museum of Natural History's Division of Anthropology
<http://research.amnh.org/anthropology/about/anthro>

More than 190,000 of the over 500,000 objects representing the peoples of Africa, Europe, Asia, the Pacific Islands, and the Americas that make up the Museum's anthropology collection have been digitally imaged. The images can be accessed through this web site, along with descriptive information. Searching the collections database by geographic area, culture, object name, and other criteria is supported.

- National Anthropological Archives and Human Studies Film Archives <http://www.nmnh.si.edu/naa/index.htm>

These archives, part of the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History, collect and preserve contemporary and historical anthropological materials that document the world's cultures and the history of anthropology. Four subfields of anthropology, ethnology, linguistics, archaeology, and physical anthropology, are reflected in the collections which include field notes, journals, manuscripts, correspondence, photographs, maps, sound recordings, film, and video. The web site primarily provides access to catalogs, guides, and other finding aids for the collections, rather than full access to the materials themselves.

- The Archaeology Channel <http://www.archaeologychannel.org>

Sponsored by the Archaeological Legacy Institute (ALI), a nonprofit research and education organization, the *Archaeology Channel* provides free streaming audio and video media covering the "human cultural heritage" worldwide. The collection is fairly large—access is provided through program listings with brief descriptions. Video content is available in either Windows Media or Real Media format and at various connection speeds.

Economics

- Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS): Economy at a Glance <http://www.bls.gov/eag/home.htm>

This site provides easy, well-organized access to basic economic data, including unemployment rates, average hourly earnings, consumer price index, and producer price index, at various levels -- for the entire country, four major regions, every state, and many metropolitan service areas. There are also quick links provided to related economic news, tools, and guides.

- FDIC: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation <http://www.fdic.gov/>

Especially given the financial crisis, this site provides valuable data and analysis from the FDIC acting in its role of examining/supervising financial institutions. The data includes lists of failed banks, the latest industry trends, historical income and balance sheet statistics for individual banks dating back to 1934, and banking laws/regulations.

- Federal Reserve web sites
 - Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco <http://www.frbsf.org>

Although each of the district Federal Reserve System banks maintains a web site to provide news and

research for its district, the San Francisco Reserve Bank provides particularly useful educational materials, especially for faculty. There is data and analysis at the regional and national levels, including a link to the Fed's "Beige Book" (otherwise known as the *Summary of Commentary on Current Economic Conditions*), a search engine for the Fed's economic research publications, an "Ask Dr. Econ" database of answers to commonly asked questions, student activities such as an interactive monetary policy game, and a video-based classroom lesson on how the Fed responded to the September 11 crisis. (Note, however, that a few of the links need updating.)

- ALFRED (Archival Federal Reserve Economic Data) <http://alfred.stlouisfed.org/>

ALFRED is one of three digital collections about the economy and banking that are associated with the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. (See the others immediately below.) ALFRED allows users to retrieve vintage versions of economic data that were available on specific dates in history. Economic data for past observation periods are revised as more accurate estimates become available.

- FRASER (Federal Reserve Archival System for Economic Research) <http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/>

FRASER aims to "preserve the nation's economic history through digitization", and provide data to students, scholars, and analysts – especially with reference to government data. FRASER is an open archive of economic statistical publications of two kinds: data publications from U. S. government agencies such as the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Census Bureau, and historical publications consisting of archival material and special collections, including Monetary Policy Hearings, Statements of the Chairman of the Board of Governors, and archival material from economic policymakers.

- FRED (Federal Reserve Economic Data) <http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/>

FRED is a database of over 20,000 U.S. economic time series. FRED allows users to download data in Microsoft Excel and text formats, as well as view charts of data series.

- Library of Economics and Liberty <http://www.econlib.org>

Also known as *Econlib*, this website offers many resources related to economics that are useful for students and faculty, including feature articles, the full texts of classical books/essays including the latest edition of The Concise Encyclopedia of Economics, a daily blog written by economists, and a weekly podcast on various economic topics. The entire web site is searchable by keyword.

- U.S. Department of the Treasury <http://www.ustreas.gov/>

This is a well-organized site with six major areas of focus: Coins and Currency, Economy, Fighting Illicit Finance, Financial Markets, International, and Taxes. Basic and advanced search capabilities are also provided.

Education

- Connexions: Sharing Knowledge and Building Communities <http://cnx.org>

Sponsored by the Hewlett Foundation, this is a repository of free educational materials and tools for developing curriculum materials easily. The content, which includes PowerPoint presentations, articles, images, conference papers, and textbooks, is free to use and adapt under a Creative Commons "attribution" license. Much of the material is useful to college-level instructors.

- Digest of Education Statistics <http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest>

The *Digest* provides a compilation of statistical information covering the field of American education from preschool through graduate school. It includes a selection of data from many sources, both government and private, but particularly draws upon the work of the National Center for Education Statistics. The print version of the *Digest of Educational Statistics*, which is available in the ECC Library, covers years prior to 1

- Doing What Works <http://dww.ed.gov>

The goal of *DWW* is to provide an online library of resources that helps teachers identify and implement research-based, effective instructional practices. The resources primarily consist of slideshows/animations, expert video interviews, and reports. Although its sponsor, the U.S. Department of Education, has given the site a K-12 focus, some of the content is applicable to community colleges. For example, three topics emphasized on the site are the following: how to organize teaching for effective learning, using data for improvement, and adolescent literacy.

- Encyclopedia of Educational Technology <http://www.etc.edu.cn/eet/eet/>

Produced by the faculty and graduate students of the Department of Educational Technology at San Diego State University, this site is a collection of short multimedia articles on a variety of topics related to incorporating technology in education. There is a keyword search capability.

- ERIC (Education Resources Information Center) <http://www.eric.ed.gov>

ERIC provides access to more than 1.3 million bibliographic records of education journal and other education-related materials. Most of the journals covered are peer-reviewed. All bibliographic records include abstracts; if available, links to full text are also included. Basic and advanced search functions are supported. The El Camino College Library pays for a subscription to the EBSCO version of *ERIC*, which enhances the native ERIC system with many additional links to full-text material.

- iTunes U <http://www.apple.com/education/itunes-u>

Many colleges and universities, plus other institutions such as museums, libraries, and PBS stations, distribute free educational content including lectures, films, and videos through iTunes U. Material may be downloaded and viewed on any Mac, PC, iPod, or iPhone.

- Lost Opportunity: A 50 State Report on the Opportunity to Learn in America <http://blackboysreport.org/otlwebsite/>

Data from a “state- by- state comparison of academic proficiency” concludes that “nationally, students from historically disadvantaged groups have just a 51% Opportunity to Learn when compared to White, non- Latino students as measured by the OTLI.” OTLI is the Opportunity to Learn Index created by the report’s sponsor, the Scott Foundation for Public Education.

- National Center for Postsecondary Research <http://www.postsecondaryresearch.org>

Housed at the Community College Research Center, Teachers College, Columbia University, the Center “focuses on measuring the effectiveness of programs designed to help students make the transition to college and master the basic skills needed to advance to a degree.” Programs of particular current research interest are the following: dual enrollment (high school students enrolled in college courses for college credit); postsecondary remediation, including learning communities, and financial aid.

History

- American Social History Online <http://www.dlfaquifer.org/home/about>

This site represents a project to specifically provide “scholars with access to distributed digital library collections pertaining to 19th and 20th century United States social history.” Currently, there are 175 collections covered, including collections from the California Digital Library, Harvard University, and the Library of Congress, and over 500,000 books, pamphlets, photographs, journal articles, data sets, and other cultural materials. Browsing by subject, place, and name, as well as simple keyword and advanced searching functions, are supported.

- Calisphere: A World of Primary Sources and More <http://www.calisphere.universityofcalifornia.edu>

Calisphere is a gateway to free digitized primary sources from the University of California system and partner California cultural heritage institutions. More than 150,000 digitized items about California history are accessible. While this public service project of the California Digital Library has a special focus on supporting the state’s K-12 curriculum content standards, it offers useful tools for teachers in general, such as a California cultures collection

with materials on four important ethnic groups in California, Asian, African, Hispanic, and Native Americans. Advanced keyword searching is supported.

- Early Americas Digital Archive <http://mith2.umd.edu/eada/>

The archive is a collection of electronic texts and links to texts originally written in or about the Americas from 1492 to approximately 1820. Advanced search capabilities are supported, including full-text searching within documents.

- Global Gateway: World Culture & Resources <http://international.loc.gov/intldl/intldlhome.html>

This is primarily a portal to the Library of Congress' digital international collections, particularly 20 primary source collections on different world cultures and five collaboratively produced bilingual collections that focus on the relationships between the U.S. and France, the Netherlands, Siberia, Spain, and Brazil. There are also links to other electronic resources on various countries recommended by the Library of Congress subject specialists.

- LANIC: Latin American Network Information Center <http://lanic.utexas.edu>

LANIC's mission is to facilitate access to web-based information to, from, or on Latin America, particularly for academic/research purposes. The information may be browsed by country, by subject, and by digital initiatives. In addition to its own collections, the Center links to over 10,000 sites in Latin America and the rest of the world, which its staff editorially reviews. Search capabilities are provided for all of these resources.

- Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade Database <http://www.slavevoyages.org/tast/index.faces>

This database is comprehensive and offers useful search features. Information is available on nearly 35,000 slave voyages between 1514 and 1866. There are actually four databases: Voyages, Estimates, Images, and African names databases, with records gleaned from documents and publications belonging to institutions from around the world. The site offers supplemental materials such as analytical essays, lesson plans, maps, and links to other relevant web sites.

- World Factbook <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook>

The CIA produces this authoritative resource of facts about 266 world countries/locations. There are nine categories of information about each location: introduction, geography, people, government, economy, communications, transportation, military, and transnational issues. There is plenty of supplemental material in the form of maps, photos, references, country comparisons, and FAQs. The site is constantly updated and enhanced. A companion site is the online directory, *Chiefs of State and Cabinet Members of Foreign Governments* at <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/world-leaders-1/index.html>.

- World History Matters <http://worldhistorymatters.org>

This is a portal to world history web sites that has been developed by the Center for History and New Media in the Department of History and Art History at George Mason University. A keyword-based search function allows searching of all sites at the same time. The site was a winner of a 2009 MERLOT award as an exemplary online teaching resource.

Philosophy

- Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy <http://www.iep.utm.edu/home/about/>

This site aims to provide free detailed, scholarly information on key topics and philosophers in all areas of philosophy. Most of the articles are peer-reviewed, original contributions by specialized philosophers. The site is hosted by the University of Tennessee at Martin.

- PhilPapers: Online Research in Philosophy, by David Chalmers and David Bourget <http://philpapers.org>

The creators of this web site, both philosophy professors, provide a comprehensive directory of books by academic philosophers and online philosophy articles. The contents of nearly 200 philosophy journals are

monitored. While most journal articles are available electronically, only some are free. The site encourages the submission of "open access" material. Resources are classified according to a detailed taxonomy, and an advanced search engine is available. A network of discussion forums is also supported. This site is primarily intended for faculty.

Political Science

- American President: An Online Reference Resource <http://millercenter.org/academic/americanpresident>

Created by the Miller Center of Public Affairs, University of Virginia, this site provides well-organized, in-depth information about each U.S. President that has been reviewed by prominent scholars. Essays about every President's life before, during, and after each term, plus information about the First Ladies and cabinet officials, are featured. A multimedia gallery presents images of the Presidents, specific eras, and associated topics.

- Annenberg Public Policy Center <http://www.annenbergpublicpolicycenter.org>

This site is intended to allow scholars and the general public greater access to the expertise of the Center in six basic areas: Political Communication, Information and Society, Media and Children, Health Communication, Adolescent Communication, and the catch-all Advanced Study in Communication. For each area, there are links to news articles, research findings, published datasets, and Center projects/initiatives.

- C-SPAN Video Library <http://www.c-spanvideo.org/videoLibrary>

The Library consists of digital copies of all the various federal government events that have been recorded and broadcasted on the C-SPAN network since 1987. More than 160,000 hours of programming have been recorded and are available for streaming online to meet historical, educational, research, and archival needs. Browsing and searching (by topic, series, congressional committee, and by the most recent and most popular programs) are supported. This is a great resource for both in- and out-of-classroom use.

- Council on Foreign Relations <http://www.cfr.org>

The Council on Foreign Relations is an independent, nonpartisan membership organization, think tank, and publisher. Its web site offers substantial free online resources, including a daily news briefing feature; articles on important issues; background and analysis in the form of printed reports, podcasts, and videos; essential primary documents underlying foreign policy debates; and research links "to access the best the Internet has to offer on foreign policy and international relations." Basic keyword and advanced search functions are supported.

- Federal Digital System (FDsys) <http://fdsys.gpo.gov/fdsys/search/home.action>

FDsys is an advanced digital content management system created by the Government Printing Office (GPO) that is gradually replacing *GPO Access*, which was created in 1994 to provide electronic access to government publications. *FDsys* is intended to be more comprehensive and to provide more integrated features than *GPO Access*. It offers documents from Congress and federal agencies and scans of previous print-only publications. Searching is supported across all publication types. Links may be emailed.

- Gallup.com <http://www.gallup.com>

Despite some confusing organization and navigation, this web site is a valuable resource for researching public opinion on politics and many other topics. The easiest way to access the primary polling data content is to select "Topics A-Z" on the "Resources" pull-down menu at the top of the home page. Clicking on a particular topic will yield the latest as well as historical polling results. Depending on the topic, the polling data extends back to at least 1952.

- InternationalSecurityResources.com, by Richard Horowitz <http://www.internationalsecurityresources.com>

Links to numerous online sources of information on international security issues are provided. The links are organized into sections such as Topics (e.g. terrorism and weapons of mass destruction), Tools (e.g. databases, gateways, and libraries), Special Courts and Tribunals and United Nations Departments. Horowitz has served in

the Israel Defense forces implementing national security projects, and is currently an attorney specializing in corporate and international security.

- National Archives Experience: Digital Vaults <http://digitalvaults.org>

Out of the 10 billion records of the U.S. government contained in the National Archives, the *Digital Vaults* provides access to 1,200 digitized documents, photographs, drawings, maps, and film clips. Users may search the database using both keywords and tags.

- National Security Archive <http://www.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/>

Over 80,000 declassified documents are accessible, obtained mainly under the auspices of the Freedom of Information Act. The collection emphasizes US foreign policy since 1945.

- Treaties in Force <http://www.state.gov/s//treaty/tif/index.htm>

Bilateral/multilateral treaties and other international agreements that have been approved by Congress are accessible. The site can be searched or browsed.

- USA.gov <http://www.usa.gov>

As the U.S. government's official portal for information and services, this site was rated #1 of all e-government sites according to the 2009 Brookings Institution report, "Comparing Technology Innovation in the Private and Public Sectors." For browsing purposes, it is organized into four major areas: Get Services (how to get things done online), Explore Topics, Find Government Agencies, and Contact Government. There is also a keyword search function provided.

Psychology

- American Psychological Association: Psychology Topics <http://www.apa.org/topics/>
American Psychological Association: Research <http://www.apa.org/research/index.aspx>

These two sections of the APA web site are notable for concise information, especially for students, and ease of navigation. A wide gamut of topics are covered such as ADHD, bipolar disorder, hate crimes, testing issues, bullying, with links to related news, reading, and APA resources, including relevant full-text articles from the *Monitor on Psychology* journal. The research section offers a searchable database on research funding, research tools and methods, and a sampling of research "that demonstrates the application and value of psychological science in our everyday lives."

- Classics in the History of Psychology, founded and edited by Christopher Green, Associate Professor of Psychology, York University, Canada. <http://psychclassics.yorku.ca>

This resource provides access to the full-text of historically significant public domain documents from the scholarly literature of psychology and related fields. It includes over 25 books and some 200 articles and chapters, with links to over 200 resources at other web sites. Searching is supported by author or topic.

- Diseases of the Mind: Highlights of American Psychiatry through 1900 <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/diseases/>

Sponsored by the National Library of Medicine's History of Medicine Division, this site offers students a good overview of pre-20th century U.S. psychiatry, along with relevant illustrations and links to some digitized primary sources.

- National Institute of Mental Health <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/index.shtml>

This is an authoritative resource that offers information on many health/mental health topics as well as an overview of NIMH research and funding.

- Psych Central <http://psychcentral.com>

This site is considered one of the web's most reliable sources of mental health information. Over 90% of the content is original, produced by a network of professionals in the field. It also provides annotated guides to other useful web sites. The site is accredited by the Health on the Network Foundation (HON) which evaluates online medical/health information based on standards for reliability and credibility.

Sociology

- UnHappy Planet Index 2.0 <http://www.happyplanetindex.org>

A measurement of progress, known as HPI or the Happy Planet Index, is gaining attention as an alternative to GDP (Gross Domestic Product). It assesses social and economic well-being, given resources used, environmental impact, and subjective measures of life satisfaction. This site is thought-provoking and informative.

- Men's Bibliography: A Comprehensive Bibliography of Writing on Men, Masculinities, Gender, and Sexualities <http://mensbiblio.xyonline.net>

This is the 19th edition of the bibliography, posted in 2008 by Michael Flood, a sociology professor at the University of Wollongong in Australia. It lists about 22,400 books and articles, sorted into over 30 major subject areas. A search function is provided.

- National Institute of Corrections <http://www.nicic.org>

This agency within the U.S. Department of Justice provides online access to the approximately 25 percent of its library collection that is available in electronic format. The collection is unique in its focus on unpublished materials developed by correctional agencies, in addition to providing journals, newsletters, published books and monographs, video and audio tapes. Users may submit research questions and receive answers from Institute staff.

- Teaching Tolerance <http://www.tolerance.org>

A project of the Southern Poverty Law Center, this web site provides free educational materials (print and video) to support its mission of "reducing prejudice, improving intergroup relations and supporting equitable school experiences for our nation's children." While the emphasis is on the K-12 level, there is significant material that is useful for community colleges. In particular, the Teaching Diverse Students initiative resources, which are research-based, are valuable for college faculty.

- Women's Studies in Digital Archives <http://www.bama.ua.edu/~mbarrett/WSinDigitalArchives/Home.htm>

This is a good starting point for students and faculty who are interested in accessing primary source materials for women's studies that are available in digital archives. Each archive that is included is reviewed by a member of the Women's Studies Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries.