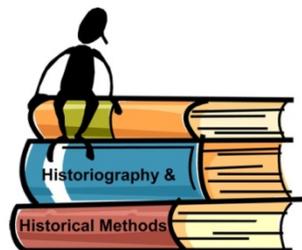


Working Bibliography: Assignment & Rubric Dr. Stallbaumer-Beishline



Goals of assignment: to demonstrate an ability to create an initial, relevant list of monographs and journal articles that you may study; to demonstrate an ability to search the following databases: BU Pilot, WorldCat, America History and Life-Historical Abstracts (AHL-HA), and JStor.

Why “working”? You will add to and subtract secondary sources as your project becomes more refined. You will be expected to revise your reading list in response to critiques from me, advice from experts, and what you discover as you read.

The Link between Library Tutorials and this Assignment: in order to search these databases, you must make the time to complete the Library Database Tutorials. **Tip:** complete tutorials for one database, then practice the skills. Then review the tutorials to hone those skills. Consider having the tutorial open in one browser window, while practicing the skills in a second browser window.

Requirements:

- You are required to demonstrate that you have successfully searched **each** of these:
 - BU Pilot
 - WorldCat (BU’s subscription WorldCat, not free public access version)
 - America History and Life OR Historical Abstracts (AHL-HA)
 - JStor
- Please note: if your topic is strictly American history, then you are not expected to search Historical Abstracts; if your topic is strictly non-American, then you are not expected to search America History and Life.
- A minimum of 20 potentially relevant titles are required (no primary sources, no tertiary sources e.g. encyclopedia articles, internet web sites, survey textbooks; eBooks and journal articles secured through the internet are acceptable).
- You must have monographs and journal articles.
- As you build your working bibliography, record one bibliographic reference to a separate 3 x 5 index card. Record information accurately according to Turabian (pp. 135-161 entries # 15.1-16.4.2 and pp. 166-185 entries # 17.1-17.2.6)

**Can't find anything?
You may be narrowing
your search too much
or not following the
principles set out in
tutorials.**

Sample bibliography card:

Kelley, Donald R. <u>Fortunes of History: Historical Inquiry from Herder to Huizinga</u> . New Haven, Connecticut: Yale University Press, 2003.		Notice that I typed this. If handwritten, underline title; if typed, use italicize command.
Pilot; Subject Search: historiography		Indicate what database, type of search (e.g. subject, keyword), and term or phrase by which you searched.
BU + D 16 K26 2003	} } }	Tip: Record BU Call number & additional useful notes such as whether or not you have made an inter-loan request.
Or Inter Library Loan (ILL)		

- Indicate the source through which you found the title (e.g. Pilot, WorldCat, Historical Abstracts or America History and Life, JStor, or in the bibliography of a historical monograph) on each 3x5 card.
- Indicate what search terms you used to locate the title.

Selection Criteria for Book Titles and Journal Articles:

- You will be assessed on your selection criteria.
- You should attempt to select scholarly works produced by professional scholars or historians, not amateurs.
- Your book titles and journal articles should have been published from within ten or twenty years of the event through to the present.
- Your bibliography cannot be narrowly limited to your immediate topic. For example, if the topic is the origins of the Spanish-American War, you would want to identify two-or three monographs that study this event in the larger context of American diplomatic history.
- The earliest publications, during or immediately after an event, are often written by journalists, social scientists, or amateur historians who may not have sufficient access to a variety of sources or lack the skill set. Whether or not to include these works in your historiography, should be determined in consultation with your instructor.
- Knowing the above points in the selection criteria, your book titles and journal articles must originate from across the span of time since historians (preferably professional) began writing about the subject (some subjects such as ethnic histories, women's history, popular culture may have only gained attention from professional historians since the 1950s).
- Please understand that it is better to have identified too many monographs or articles than not enough; you will not be expected to read everything that you identify.
- Randomly selecting five titles from each database in order to meet the magic number of 20 will not help you complete the larger goal of the historiographic essay assignment.
- If you need assistance, and at some point, you all should, please see me (conducting a bibliographic search takes time and practice. HOWEVER, if you have not completed the Library Database Tutorials, do not ask for my help.

How to submit?

- Submit a photocopy of 3 x 5 cards of potentially relevant books or articles on your historiographic topic (you should get five or six 3x5 cards per page). Please note: when photocopying, I need to be able to see each index card completely.
 - Why have you submit a photocopy of 3x5 cards? I am encouraging you to adopt an effective, low-tech method of keeping track of your research. You can carry these bibliography cards with you where you go, make notes when you need to, etc. This system is effective.

This rubric will be used to assess your competency:

Working Bibliography Rubric

Gateway requirements

Name:

Topic:

Evidence the following databases have been researched (taken from notes by student and randomly attempting the student's search) to locate the minimum 20 titles (monographs and journal articles):

WorldCat	BU Pilot	JStor	Historical Abstracts or America History and Life

Dates of Publications (recording dates of publications to determine if titles originate from isolated time periods):

Yes	No	All of the titles are relevant secondary sources.
Yes	No	Includes notes on how each title was found (including database, type of search (e.g. keyword, subject, etc), and words or phrases used.

Assessment:

Gateway requirement

18-20 Points: Far exceeds the minimum number of 20 titles; all of the sources are secondary (not tertiary or primary); all databases were searched and several titles located in each one; notes on bibliography cards follow assignment guidelines making it easy to replicate the search; sincere attempt to locate secondary sources from within approximately ten years of the event (not possible with some topics) to the present; most titles are directly relevant to the topic; some titles focus on larger context of the topic; when the search is replicated, the selection of titles makes sense, not randomly recording books or articles.

15-17.75 Points: Only the minimum number of titles have been located; all four databases were searched though the selection of titles do not fully make sense when the search is replicated; all sources are secondary (not tertiary or primary); notes on bibliography cards follow assignment guidelines and searches can be replicated; titles might come from isolated time periods; only one or two titles originate from the larger context of the topic; otherwise the titles are narrowly focused on the topic; when search is replicated, the selection of titles may seem a bit random.

14.5 and lower: **Gateway requirements:** if you fail to meet the minimum assignment guidelines regarding (1) databases searched; (2) minimum number of titles; (3) missing notes on bibliography cards. Other ways to earn low points: you have included tertiary or primary sources; when instructor attempts search, selection of titles appears random; no logic to titles selected.

Recommendations:

- What you have produced for this assignment is a "working bibliography". You are expected to add journal articles and books titles to your reading list as you become more familiar with your topic and see gaps in your research.
- Monographs that provide larger context.
- Selection criteria for titles is random and requires discussion with instructor.
- Need to develop bibliography around a variety of related topics.
- Consult the following faculty members about your working bibliography: