

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SACRAMENTO
THE LIBRARY
Reference Department

A QUICK GUIDE TO ECONOMICS INFORMATION RESOURCES

By Bill Kristie

1. CSUS PHONE NUMBERS AND EMAIL ADDRESSES

CSUS Library Reference Desk 278-5673

CSUS Library Email Reference, <http://library.csus.edu/services/askLibrarian/>

Bill Kristie, Economics Librarian, 278-5662, bkristie@csus.edu

Anne Bradley, Business Librarian, 278-4350, bradleya@csus.edu

CSUS Library Computer Systems Problem Line, 278-5656 (for problems connecting to Library Databases)

CSUS University Computing Help Desk 278-7337 (for problems using SacLink or other CSUS computer applications)

2. BACKGROUND RESEARCH: GUIDES, ENCYCLOPEDIAS AND GENERAL ECONOMICS RESOURCES

Sources to consult when beginning your research. Books are shelved in the Reference Collection on 2 North.

Economist's Handbook: a research and writing guide. ref HB 74.5 W97

-transforming data (e.g. converting nominal to real values), economic report writing, statistical methodology, etc.

New Palgrave: a Dictionary of Economics. ref HB 61 N49 2008

-authoritative 8 volume ENCYCLOPEDIA to almost 2,000 topics, including formulas, data and background sources

Encyclopedia of American Economic History. ref HC 103 E52

-learn how your topic developed over time, successful and failed policy attempts, and economic evolution

Resources for Economists on the Internet. www.rfe.org

-compiled by Professor Bill Goffe, SUNY Oswego and considered one of the most comprehensive economics web sites

Economics.About.com. <http://economics.about.com/mbody.htm>

-one of the best commercial web sites to a wide variety of economics information

Research Guides. <http://db.lib.csus.edu/guides>

-Economics: Selected Sources is an in-depth guide to major resources in the Library and online

-Business Time Series Data lists a variety of print and online data sources

-Government Information is a quick guide to US, State, local and international government web sites

-Writing Guides provide crib sheets to writing styles such as APA, MLA, etc. with examples, sources and web sites

3. LITERATURE REVIEW: BOOKS, GOVERNMENT REPORTS, STUDIES, THESES, MEDIA AND WEB SITES

EUREKA – the online catalog to materials in the CSUS Library. <http://eureka.lib.csus.edu/>

There are 2 ways to conduct a literature review in EUREKA

1. Click SUBJECT in the RIGHT FRAME to search ONE concept to begin your research, e.g. Environmental Economics
After clicking on a subject heading, change "System Sorted" to "Reverse Year" at the top of right on the screen

2. Click ADVANCED in the RIGHT FRAME to correlate multiple topics, e.g. Sustain* AND Develop* AND Agricultur*

NOTE: The asterisk (*) insures all alternative endings of a word are included in the search

WORLDCAT – the online catalog of 110 million items from 70,000 libraries worldwide

From the Library Home Page (<http://library.csus.edu>) in the grey box at the top, click the **WorldCat** blue link

Click the ADVANCED SEARCH tab to correlate multiple topics

Always select RANK BY DATE at the bottom of the screen each time you search

Click on the title of the item to display the FULL RECORD; then click on LIBRARIES WORLDWIDE THAT OWN ITEM

If CSUS or UC DAVIS are options, click on them to get the call number and availability to be checked out

NOTE: You can check out books from UC Davis with your Sac State One Card by going there in person

For other libraries, click on INTERLIBRARY SERVICES REQUEST within the FULL RECORD

The CSUS Library will then get the requested item for you for free – allow at least 1-2 weeks to receive it

4. LITERATURE REVIEW: JOURNAL ARTICLES

From the Library Home Page <http://library.csus.edu> click Database & Article Searching

For Economics related databases, click on ECONOMICS on the left side of this page

When searching off-campus using a commercial Internet Service Provider (ISP) you will be prompted to supply your SacLink Username and Password before the database opens

Use the following CSUS Library subscription databases to research journal articles

Academic Search Premier

- covers a representative sampling of over 8,000 journals, magazines and newspapers in all subject areas
- to limit the search to journal articles only, check the box called: SCHOLARLY (PEER REVIEWED) JOURNALS
- to further limit results, click on relevant SUBJECT and SUBJECT THESAURUS terms in the left frame
- to limit to Economics Journals, use Econom* as a search term, setting "Select a field" to "SO JOURNAL NAME"
- click on the title of the article to read the FULL RECORD and learn more about the article
- to CITE the article, click on the YELLOW ICON at the top of the screen in the FULL RECORD

EconLit

- a comprehensive index to the field of economics created by the American Economics Association, 1969 to current
- indexes 800 journals (>10% in foreign languages), books, chapters in books, dissertations and working papers
- below the search boxes the search can be limited by Publication Type (e.g. "Journal Article") or Geographic Region
- EconLit Subject Descriptors and Classification Codes <http://www.aeaweb.org/econlit/subject.php>
- to use these in the search boxes change the "Select a field" setting to SU Subjects or CC Classification Code
- to CITE the article, click on the YELLOW ICON at the top of the screen in the FULL RECORD

ABI/Inform Complete

- an excellent index to over 1000 periodicals in business and economics going back to the early 1970's
- click the orange ADVANCED Search tab to begin searching
- to CITE the article, click on the CITE THIS link at the top of the screen in the FULL RECORD

Science Direct

- an index to full-text journals from a wide variety of science and social science disciplines
- indexes and provides full-text to over 100 economics and finance journals
- to CITE the article, click on EXPORT CITATION near the top right in the FULL RECORD

JSTOR

- an index to full-text journals from a wide variety of disciplines, EXCLUDING the most recent 5 years
- indexes and provides full-text to over 70 economics journals
- to CITE the article, click on EXPORT THE CITATION near the top right in the FULL RECORD

Project MUSE

- an index to John Hopkins University Press full-text journals from a wide variety of disciplines, for the past few years
- indexes and has full-text to 11 economics journals
- to CITE the article, click on DOWNLOAD/EXPORT CITATION in the right frame in the FULL RECORD

ERIC (find this database under the subject of EDUCATION on the database listings page)

- the most comprehensive index to the field of education from the 1960's to current
- indexes over 1,000 journals and thousands of non-journal reports, guides, etc., known as ERIC Documents
- below the search boxes the search can be limited by Documents or Journal Articles, if desired
- ERIC documents (indicated by an ED accession number) are available in full-text for the most recent years
- ERIC documents not available in full-text are on microfiche in the Library's Media Center arranged by ED number
- to CITE the article, click on the YELLOW ICON at the top of the screen in the FULL RECORD

5. HOW TO FIND JOURNAL ARTICLES CITED IN THE ABOVE DATABASES

a. Articles that state TEXT or PDF are available full-text in the database and can be emailed, printed or downloaded

b. For those lacking full-text, click the FIND IT icon, which will show one or more links to where the article can be found:
If it states "Get Sac State Licensed Full text from ..." click on the GO button to get to the online text of the article
If it states "Check Print Holdings in Eureka" click the Go button to learn what years in print format are shelved alphabetically on the 3rd floor south in the library (recent years to the right and older years to the left of the windows)
Occasionally, EUREKA will provide you an online link to the journal in full-text format

6. HOW TO USE BIBLIOGRAPHIES TO FIND MORE BOOKS, JOURNAL ARTICLES AND WEB SITES

The encyclopedias, theses, books and journal articles that you read will contain BIBLIOGRAPHIES to additional books, journal articles and websites that relate to your research. The authors of these original works determined that these were important to the subject and CITED them to further extend the knowledge of the reader. Bibliographies can quickly add to your literature review and can also be used to find the origin of a particular statistical data table.

7. HOW TO VERIFY IF THE CSUS LIBRARY HAS A BOOK OR JOURNAL ARTICLE CITED IN A BIBLIOGRAPHY

a. For cited web sites, simply input the URL into any browser (this is often used to track down statistical data)

b. For cited journal articles, go to the Library Home Page (<http://library.csus.edu>)

Click on "Journal Titles" (in the grey box at the top of the page) and type the journal name, not the title of the article
If the journal name appears, click on it and then click on the name of the database to get linked to the article

NOTE: if EUREKA is the only link, click on it to learn what years are shelved alphabetically on 3rd floor south
Recent years are to the right and older years are to the left of the windows

Occasionally, EUREKA will provide you an online link to the journal in full-text

ALTERNATIVELY, click on "Article Citation Linker" and fill out the required information identifying your target article.

c. For cited books, go to the Library Home Page (<http://library.csus.edu>)

Click on "Books" (in the grey box at the top of the page) and type the title of the book

EUREKA will provide the floor location and the call number of the book in the Library

8. HOW TO GET ARTICLES AND BOOKS NOT AVAILABLE AT THE CSUS LIBRARY

a. Most books and journal articles not at CSUS can be obtained for free or for a low fee by the CSUS Interlibrary Services
-order books and copies of articles using their online form: <http://library.csus.edu/content2.asp?pageID=76>

b. Another option is to get the item yourself from UC Davis or the California State Library (at 10th and Capitol, downtown).
-search the UC Davis library at <http://harvest.lib.ucdavis.edu> CSUS students can copy articles and check out books
-search the California State Library <http://www.lib.state.ca.us/> Photocopy items. State employees can check out books

c. UC Davis has many times the number of journals of the CSUS Library and many of them are online at any UCD Library
In Sacramento, the UCD Medical Center's Blaisdell Library is open to the public and you can access online journals there
The Med Center Library's location and hours: <http://www.lib.ucdavis.edu/dept/hsl/about/maps/?map=mcl>

9. CSUS LIBRARY SUBSCRIPTION DATABASES TO DISSERTATIONS, REPORTS AND STATISTICAL DATA

From the Library Home Page (<http://library.csus.edu>) click Database & Article Searching, then ECONOMICS

Country Reports from Business Source Premier AND CountryWatch Forecast

-quick information and current statistics on every country in the world

Dissertations and Theses Abstracts

-provides abstracts to over 1 million dissertations and theses and full text for most published since 1997

-conduct an ADVANCED SEARCH on your topic to augment your Literature Review

-any dissertations cited in bibliographies can be found in this database

National Bureau of Economic Research

-full text working papers and reports in all areas of economic theory and practice; includes statistical data and data links

GPO Access

-Federal web portal to full-text information from government agencies, including budgets, legislation and regulations

RAND California

-research and policy reports on California, including an extensive database of economic and social statistics

STAT USA (NOTE: access was recently changed to the Government Documents workstation only)

-Department of Commerce site to US and foreign economic data, and full-text country economic and trade reports

10. STATISTICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DATA

Guide to Everyday Economic Statistics. ref HB 137 C57

-explains the value of specific economic data in predicting and describing the economy and where they are found

US Government web sites:

Economic Indicators	www.gpoaccess.gov/indicators/browse.html
Survey of Current Business	www.bea.gov/scb/index.htm
Federal Reserve Board Releases	www.federalreserve.gov/releases/
Bureau of Labor Statistics	www.stats.bls.gov/home.htm
Business Cycle Indicators (current data)	www.tcb-indicators.org/
Business Cycle Indicators (historical data)	ref HC 101 B83
Federal Reserve Economic Data (FRED)	http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/
Archival Federal Reserve Data (ALFRED)	http://alfred.stlouisfed.org/
Federal Reserve Archival System for Economic Research (FRASER)	http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/
Business Statistics of the US (historical data)	ref HC 106.5 S9
Statistical Abstract of the US (current and historical data - online)	www.census.gov/compendia/statab/
Statistical Abstract of the US (current and historical data - print)	ref HA 202
US Census Bureau (portal to all census data)	www.census.gov
FedStats (portal to over 100 federal agencies statistics)	www.fedstats.gov

California Government web sites:

California Statistical Abstract (current and historical data)	ref HA 261 C3, or online at:
www.dof.ca.gov/HTML/FS_DATA/STAT-ABS/Statistical_Abstract.php	
California Department of Finance Data	http://www.dof.ca.gov/research

Local data web sites:

American FactFinder	http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html?_lang=en
State and County QuickFacts	http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/
Sacramento Area Commerce & Trade Organization	http://sacto.org
Sacramento Area Council of Governments	http://sacog.org

International Agencies web sites:

International Financial Statistics (IMF current data for each nation)	3 South Periodicals (published monthly)
International Financial Statistics (IMF historical data for each nation)	ref HG 3881 I6 (published annually)
Statistical Yearbook (United Nations historical data for each nation)	ref HA 12.5 U63 (published annually)
Statistics - National Agencies (from each nation)	www.library.vanderbilt.edu/romans/natlstats.html

Portals to economic statistical data:

Business: Sources for Time Series Data <http://library.csus.edu/guides/rogenmoserd/krist/mis101.htm>
-easy explanation and guide to finding a variety of economic, business and social statistical data series

Statistical Resources on the Web www.lib.umich.edu/govdocs/statsnew.html
-one of the best guides to business/economics/social and other web sites compiled by the University of Michigan
-click one or more of the subject categories in the right frame to get a list of data choices

Economagic.com: Economic Time Series Page www.Economagic.com
-an easy to use commercial site with free access to thousands of business/economic time series data

EconStats www.EconStats.com
-contains a large number of data series for the US and some foreign countries

Business & Economics guide from UC Davis <http://www.lib.ucdavis.edu/ul/research/subjects/index.php?heading=15>
Statistics and Data guide from UC Davis <http://www.lib.ucdavis.edu/ul/research/subjects/index.php?heading=141>
-these guides list databases available for use within a UCD Library (e.g. the Med Center Library in Sacramento)
-some of these databases will have online time series data
-before going to a UCD Library, check the UCD database you want to use against the CSUS database list:
<http://db.lib.csus.edu/databases/dbs.php>
-those appearing on the CSUS database list are already available to you remotely as a CSUS student