Medieval History
Research Pathfinder

If you need research help, stop by the library! If I'm busy with another class, send an email to pvallee@lunenburgonline.com

BOOKS: Destiny Discover - Search our school library

Here is a link to the Medieval Research Collection of books on that topic

- Use Destiny Discover to search our library to see if we have books on your topic
- To find books about your topic, type a few keywords to do a search
    - NOTE - did you know that you can sign into your own Destiny account to see what you have checked out, renew items, create collections, and more??
        - Username - beginning of your Google account [2020RyanT]
        - Password - same as your Google account [rwt120456]



- Click + to change to an author, subject or title search
- Click the magnifying glass to start the search
    - Our library is small enough that doing a simple keyword search isn't a huge issue, but sometimes you get back too many results to be useful if you try this in the public library catalog (CWMARS below)

Books: CWMARS - Search the public libraries

- Use CWMARS to search Lunenburg Public Library and others in central & western Massachusetts
- You'll need a public library card to borrow the books from a library or order through interlibrary loan
- Any CWMARS library card works (from Lunenburg, Fitchburg, Leominster, etc)

American History Research Guide by Pamela Vallee is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License. Created December 2019

Databases

These connect automatically from school; will need passwords for home access

Database page on the library website - connects to all subject areas

- **History & Government Databases**
- **Science & Health Databases**

Gale Databases:

1. World History in Context
    - Search by keyword or subject
        - Look for related subjects
        - Look for primary sources
    - Save articles to Google Drive
        - Click *Sign in with Google* at the top of the screen to connect your Google account

2. JSTOR
    - Can search within searches
    - Check article topics
    - Save articles
        - First log in using the Lunenburg username and password (if accessing from home - should be automatic in school)
        - Click *Login to My Account* and create an account/login if you want to save articles

3. Biography in Context
    - Search by author for biographical information
    - Save articles to Google Drive

Keyword/Basic Searching

- *Search using only a few keywords to start search*
    - *The database or book catalog assumes there is an AND between each word you add and looks for books or articles that have ALL the words - so **Lizzie Borden on trial for killing her parents in Fall River** would turn up a lot less hits than only searching **Lizzie Borden trial***
    - *You might be adding too many words and missing good information*

American History Research Guide by Pamela Vallee is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License. Created December 2019

- *Try using different terms, such as:*
    - ***The Plague*** or ***Bubonic Plague*** *instead of* ***Black Death***
    - ***Medieval Period*** *instead of* ***Middle Ages***
- *Some databases show suggestions when you do keyword searches - look for ones that are capitalized or in bold*
- *When you find a good article, look for related subjects/topics. Click those links to find more articles on those subjects*
- *Try quotes around phrases - "**Black Death**" or "**Black Death" primary sources***

Advanced Searching

- *The basic/keyword searches can be pretty useful but might turn up too much information. You can do Advanced Searches to limit the search results.*
    - *Try searching "witch trials" NOT Salem as subjects to find articles about witches that don't include Salem*
    - *Try searching psychiatric hospital OR asylum as subjects - if you're not sure which term is correct*
    - *Try searching [your topic -search term] to remove that search term from your results.*
        - *prohibition -wikipedia to remove wikipedia from the results*
        - *"Lizzie Borden" history -wikipedia*

Google Scholar

Google Search

- Search examples:
    - "Black death" primary sources

American History Research Guide by Pamela Vallee is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License. Created December 2019