YOU CAN FIND THE ANSWER AT THE LIBRARY

WHAT KIND OF SOURCES DO YOU NEED?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Primary Sources</th>
<th>Secondary Sources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A document or record which contains first-hand information on a topic. They are often created at the time of an event. Primary sources provide insights into how people view their world at a particular time.</td>
<td>Any published or unpublished work that is one step removed from the original source (or event under review). A secondary source usually describes, summarizes, analyses, evaluates, interprets or reviews primary source materials.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Examples**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Primary Sources</th>
<th>Secondary Sources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Original documents (letters, diaries, speeches, eyewitness accounts, photographs, government records, audio and video recordings)</td>
<td>Books including biographical or historical studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newspaper Articles by those who witnessed an event</td>
<td>Literary Criticism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creative Works (songs, plays, novels, paintings)</td>
<td>Documentaries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relics or Artifacts</td>
<td>Scholarly Journal articles</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Newspaper articles that interpret events</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HAVE QUESTIONS?

In-person assistance is available at the second-floor research desk...

**Mon-Wed** 9AM - Midnight  
**Thurs** 9AM - 8PM  
**Fri** 8AM - 6PM  
**Sat** 1PM - 6PM  
**Sun** 1PM - 10PM

Help is also available by phone (912-478-1315), text (478-412-4297), and chat via the library homepage. Private research consultations are also available by appointment with any librarian.

GEORGASOUTHERN.LIBGUIDES.COM/HIST2110

The course LibGuide contains library info as well as shortcuts to important research tools you will need for your assignment.

Be sure to explore the **Secondary and Primary Resources** tabs to locate the best tools for finding books, articles, and web sources. The **Cite Resources** tab will help you use them in your final video project.
Professors often require scholarly sources for assignments. Scholarly sources (aka academic sources) are written by experts in a particular field and keep others in that field up to date on the most recent research, findings, and news. These resources provide the STRONGEST support for your papers and projects. It is important to check your assignment guidelines to ensure you are using appropriate sources for your assignments.

Does it contain references?  
Is it peer-reviewed?  
Does it have an argument or conclusions drawn?  

Does it use technical language or vocabulary?  
Is it multiple pages long?  
Does the author have an advanced degree or affiliation with a college/university?  

Is it based on original research or experimentation?  
Are there large blocks of text with few graphics or pictures?  
It appears as though you have found a scholarly aka academic source! *

*Even if you answered “yes” to all above, you should still check to ensure the information is accurate by comparing it to other sources you have found in your research. Looking for more information? Visit our LibGuide @ georgiasouthern.libguides.com/hist2110
IS YOUR INFORMATION APPROPRIATE? TEST IT!


**CURRENCY**  
*the timeliness of the information*
- When was the information published or posted?  
- Has the information been revised or updated?  
- Does your topic require current information, or will older sources work as well?  
- Are the links functional?

**RELEVANCE**  
*the importance of the information for your needs*
- Does the information relate to your topic or answer your question?  
- Who is the intended audience? Is the information at an appropriate level?  
- Have you looked at a variety of sources before determining this is one you will use?  
- Would you be comfortable citing this source in your research paper?

**AUTHORITY**  
*the source of the information*
- Who is the author/publisher/source/sponsor?  
- What are the author’s credentials or organizational affiliations?  
- Is the author qualified to write on the topic?  
- Does the URL reveal anything about the author or source? (.com .edu .org .gov)

**ACCURACY**  
*the truthfulness and correctness of the content*
- Is the information supported by evidence?  
- Has the information been reviewed or refereed?  
- Can you verify any of the information in another source?  
- Does the language or tone seem unbiased and free of emotion?

**PURPOSE**  
*the reason the information exists*
- What is the purpose of the information?  
- Is it to inform, teach, sell, entertain or persuade?  
- Does the point of view appear objective and impartial?  
- Are there political, ideological, cultural, religious, institutional or personal biases?