



# The Information-Literate Historian: A Guide to Research for History Students

*Jenny L. Presnell*

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In the past, historians could rely on their basic understanding of bibliographic tools to do effective research, as resources were primarily available in print, on microform, or at a library. Today, the information explosion resulting from access to the Internet has complicated traditional research methods by heightening expectations and raising new questions about retrieving, using, and presenting information.

*The Information-Literate Historian* is the only book specifically designed to teach today's history student how to most successfully select and use sources--primary, secondary, and electronic--to carry out and present their research. The book discusses:

- \* questions to ask before, during, and after the research process, as well as questions to ask about sources and their authors
- \* search strategies that can be used in both electronic and print indexes
- \* the various types of sources that are appropriate for specific research questions
- \* how to find and use books, journals, and primary sources quickly and efficiently, and how to select the best ones for a particular topic
- \* the ways in which historians practice their craft and the nature of historical discourse and narrative
- \* methods for finding, using, and evaluating such media as images, speeches, and maps
- \* guidelines for presenting historical research in different formats, including papers, oral presentations, and websites

Written by a college librarian, *The Information-Literate Historian* is an indispensable reference for historians, students, and other readers doing history research.

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