Library Research Tools

Find Books searches all items owned by the Library – books, e-books, videos, and periodical titles by keyword.
Choose Books & More (Catalog) to search the Cameron University Catalog by author, title, keyword, or subject.

Find Articles
Search Articles (databases) for articles on your topic. Articles focus on current events or report on research.
Tip: periodical = journal, magazine, or newspaper = serial.

Print Indexes to articles - information about content of magazines, journals and newspapers by subject.

Databases
Cameron Library subscribes to these databases. They contain current articles (1984-present) with some full text articles.
2. Click Articles (Databases) and select a database. Enter your Login & Password if requested for access.
3. Search by main concepts to find articles within a database.

General databases – contain some articles on almost any topic.
- Academic Search Premier
- Issues and Controversies
- MasterFILE Premier
- Sage Premier
- Article First
- JSTOR
- WilsonSelectPlus

Specific subject area databases - focus on one subject area (e.g. business, education, or science).
- ACS Publications (American Chemical Society)
- Annals of American History Online
- Biology Digest
- Communication & Mass Media Complete
- GreenFile
- Health Source: Nursing
- Mergent Online
- MLA International Bibliography
- Professional Development Collection
- PsycINFO
- Valueline
- AGRICOLA
- Biological Abstracts
- Business Source Premier
- ERIC
- Health Source: Consumer Edition
- Lexis Nexis Academic
- Military & Government Collection
- National Criminal Justice Reference Service Abstracts
- PsycARTICLES
- Today’s Science
- WorldCat Dissertations

Newspaper database - covers current events in newspapers.
- Newspaper Source Plus

Steps to Find Articles in a Database
1. Open library’s homepage. http://www.cameron.edu/library/ Select Articles (Databases)
2. Select a database and enter your login and password, if required for access. Search by main concepts. Click on article title on Results List to read the abstract.
3. For articles with PDF Full Text or HTML Full Text: use printer icons to print citation page (abstract) and article.
4. Articles without full text, click on Check for full text.
5. If text is not available, use the ILLiad Borrow from another library link within the database for Interlibrary Loan.

Reference Materials
Search the Cameron University Catalog to obtain call numbers for materials on a specific topic. Related items may be on 2nd floor at similar call numbers.
Reference materials (REF) provide specialized information, with specific topics covered in books on broader topics. REF items are on 1st floor.
Library Research Tools (continued)

**Overviews**

**General Encyclopedias**

Encyclopaedia Britannica, Collier’s Encyclopedia, and Encyclopedia Americana - Good sources of background & historical information on broad topics, and specific information on narrow topics. Include bibliographies of the fundamental resources on each topic covered. The Encyclopaedia Britannica is also available as a database.

**Subject Encyclopedias**

Provide more in-depth information on specific topics than general encyclopedias. Good bibliographies.

In the Cameron University Library Catalog, search for your broad subject and the word *encyclopedia*; for example perform a keyword search on *science and encyclopedia*.

**Dictionaries** - provide spellings, definitions, word origins, etc.

Merriam-Webster Dictionary

Also within the Encyclopaedia Britannica database

**Subject Dictionaries**

Focus on the terminology within one field. In the Cameron University Library Catalog search for your broad subject and the word *dictionary*; for example perform a keyword search for *science and dictionaries*.

**Handbooks** - by subject

Provide specific information and guidance in broad subject areas. Very useful for finding information about specific practices or guidelines in a field. In the Cameron University Library Catalog search for your broad subject and the word *handbook*; for example perform a keyword search on *science and handbook*.

**Current Issues**

CQ Researcher - weekly magazine which covers current issues. Use the most recent index (blue pages) to find a topic (searchable in Academic Search Premier but articles are not full text).

Information Series on Current Topics (previously Information Plus, Inc.) - publishes statistics and analyses on current issues.

Issues and Controversies - more than 800 hot topics in business, politics, government, education, and popular culture.

**Facts and Statistics**

Almanacs provide facts about a bit of everything by year. (e.g., World Almanac, Time Almanac)

Statistical Abstract of the United States - government statistics on almost everything. The current year is online from U.S. Census Bureau [http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/](http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/)

Statistical Abstract of Oklahoma - government statistics about Oklahoma

**Biographies**

Current Biography Yearbook - provides 2-4 page biographies of very prominent people.

Directory of American Scholars - access to current biographies of scholars in the humanities.

**Specialized Resources**

Atlases - information about physical, political, & social geography.

Career Information resources – books on career options, jobs, resumes, and cover letters

Quote Books - provide indexes to famous phrases (quotations) and who used them first.

Bartlett’s Familiar Quotations – online at [http://www.bartleby.com/](http://www.bartleby.com/)

Cambridge Histories Online – the available volumes are grouped into topics, making it quick and easy to search and browse through an array of historical subject areas.

Films on Demand – 6,000 films on a variety of topics.

**Internet**

Internet - provides forums for many organizations and businesses to publish advertising and other propaganda. Website URLs ending in *edu, gov, and .org* are usually preferred for research.