

WRITING 2: MUSIC AND POLITICS – Spring 2007

LIBRARY SERVICES

Library web site – <http://www.library.ucsb.edu/>

Ask a librarian – <http://www.library.ucsb.edu/help/ask/index.html>

Off campus access to e-resources – <http://www.library.ucsb.edu/help/offcampus.html>

Help by subject – <http://www.library.ucsb.edu/subjects/index.html>

BACKGROUND AND FINDING A TOPIC

Continuum Encyclopedia of Popular Music of the World. Music Library, Ref ML102 .P66 C66 2003. See “Politics,” vol. 1, pp. 298-303, especially the bibliography, pp. 302-303.

[Grove Music Online](#). For background information and ideas on music and politics, try doing a fulltext search on **politics**.

Garland Encyclopedia of World Music. Music Library, Ref ML100 .G16 1998. See “Politics” in the general index, vol. 10, as well as in the indexes for vols. 1-9, each of which is devoted to a specific region of the world.

For encyclopedias on politics, see the library’s [Political Science Research Guide](#), or in [Pegasus](#):

Subject Keyword **politics encyclopedias**

In [Pegasus](#), UCSB’s library catalog, browse books on music and politics: **Subject Keyword** **music political aspects** Notice keywords and concepts that you can use for further searching in [Pegasus](#).

STARTING YOUR RESEARCH

Topic and keywords

What interests you? What do you have in mind for your topic? What are the key terms and concepts for this topic? What are some alternative or related terms? General, specific terms? Do you need to broaden or narrow your focus? See [Keyword Worksheet](#).

Search strategies

Depending on your initial search results, you will often need to use strategies to narrow or broaden your search:

--Increasing the number of different concepts narrows your search (AND). You will get fewer results.

--Decreasing the number of different concepts broadens your search: take away a keyword. You will get more results.

--Searching for alternative terms broadens your search (OR); truncation broadens (**politic*** = **politics, political, politician**, etc). You will get more results.

--Specific terms narrow; broader terms broaden; limiting (by year, language, etc.) narrows.

FINDING BOOKS

[Pegasus](#): UCSB’s library catalog

- (1) Start with a keyword search, evaluate your results, and modify as necessary using your search strategies. When you start to find relevant catalog records, notice additional keywords and concepts that you can use for further searches.
- (2) Use the handout [Library Locations](#) to locate books in the library.
- (3) Check [bibliographies](#) for further relevant materials.

[Melvyl](#): Combined catalog of all UC libraries

You can request books from other campuses (allow 3-5 days!), including books that UCSB has but that are checked out.

FINDING ARTICLES

UCSB Library homepage > Research > [Article Indexes & Databases](#)

Truncation = **politic*** in all databases except Music Index Online (**politic\$**)

Below are suggested places to start searching for articles. Depending on your topic, you might want to try searching in several different databases. Use [UC-eLinks](#) to link to online fulltext or locate print journals in the library.

Expanded Academic ASAP (1980-)	Articles from magazines and scholarly jrnls, all subjects; some <u>fulltext</u>
Worldwide Political Science Abstracts (1975-)	Scholarly articles on political science, law, public policy, etc.
RILM Abstracts of Music Literature (1967-)	Scholarly literature on music – articles, books, book chapters
Music Index Online (1978-)	Articles on music from magazines and scholarly journals
International Index to Music Periodicals	Articles on music from magazines, scholarly journals; some <u>fulltext</u>
America: History and Life (1964-)	Scholarly articles on history of US
PAIS International (1972-)	Articles and other literature on government, legislation, political science, etc.
Communication Abstracts (1977-)	Articles and other literature on communications and related areas

TIME-SAVING RESEARCH TIPS AND STRATEGIES

- Start early! Don't put off your work until the last minute. Some of the best materials you find may be held on other campuses, or they may be in the UCSB library but checked out to someone else. You'll need time (allow 4-5 days) to request these items from another campus.
- When keyword searching, use key words that best describe your topic. What words or phrases best describe what you're researching? People, places, themes, characters, time periods, events, issues, and more can be keywords.
- Evaluate your search results. If you don't see related materials in the top 10-20 items of your search result, reconstruct your search using alternative keywords, synonyms, related terms, narrower or broader terms, more terms, fewer terms, etc. The goal is to get a small group of relevant records (about 15-30).
- Note the citation/source information (journal title, volume #, issue #, and date) before leaving the database, even if just to go to another window. The citation is the most important information in the database record and is required to locate the article text, online or in print.
- In the library, like materials are shelved together. When looking for a particular book on the shelf, also scope out what's shelved next to it. Books and back issues of periodicals are inter-filed on the shelves in call number order.
- Raid bibliographies. Books and articles have bibliographies and references (footnotes, endnotes). Use them so you don't have to spend hours searching in databases. Another great source for bibliographies is encyclopedias.
- Consult the librarian on duty at the reference desk. UCSB librarians work across the disciplines, will refer you if necessary, and can help track down sources, explain library services, interpret citations, and find the most useful keywords.
- Or ask [Eunice Schroeder](#) (805-893-3612; office: Arts Library, 2d floor). I am happy to help you!

