The Crusades & the Latin Kingdoms
HIST 430/828

Check subject guides under: Search → Research by Subject → History → Course Guides

Background Information

Specialized encyclopedias, dictionaries and other resources are useful for obtaining background information on a topic, in addition to helping you focus your topic and identify the main concepts, terms and keywords that describe your topic. Check Reference Resources in the course guide. You might also want to check the following:

Cambridge Medieval Textbooks
Titles in this series are textbooks for teachers and students. Designed to complement the monograph series, Cambridge Studies in Medieval Life and Thought, these books provide introductions to a range of topics.

Finding Books and Journal Articles

Consider searching: QCAT (library catalogue), Article Indexes & Databases, Summon, etc.

1. Books

To find books on your topic in QCAT, think of the words that best describe your topic and then connect them with the Boolean operators: AND, OR, NOT.

Topic: Muslim and Christian views and treatments of each other in the Crusades.

The concepts are: Muslim, Christian, views, treatments, Crusades

muslim? AND christian? AND crusades

Think of alternative words that describe this topic. If you do find relevant titles, look at the subject headings assigned (LCSH) which can lead to more accurate results.

(muslim? OR arabs OR saracens OR east?) AND (christian? OR frank? OR west?) AND crusades

2. Articles

Use the following electronic journal database to find scholarly articles:

→ International Medieval Bibliography
→ Iter: Gateway to the Middle Ages and Renaissance

To search indexes, click the tab Databases and enter the title of the database.

jews AND persecution AND crusades
To find out if Queen’s subscribes to the journal, click Get It! @ Queen’s.

3. Summon

With Summon, you can search, discover and access information on any topic from the Queen’s Library collections - print and electronic books, single articles to entire e-journals, newspapers, theses and more. You can limit your results to peer-reviewed materials, filter by year and format, narrow by additional subject terms and then save, print or email references.

Summon is a good starting point to find material for your research but if you are doing higher level research, you will want to search relevant subject specific databases.

Search the Web

Google Advanced Search www.google.ca/advanced_search
Google Scholar scholar.google.ca/

By searching Google Scholar through the Queen’s Library website, the "Get It! @ Queen’s" citation linker is activated (which allows you to click through to the Library’s subscriptions).

Evaluate Sources

Evaluating all of your sources is a crucial step of the research process. Go to the library guide Evaluating Sources for criteria on how to judge information sources (especially for websites).

Cite Sources

Check our citation and style guide pages at: Help & Services → Help → Citing Sources

Chicago is the preferred style of documentation in History literature. Check QCAT for print copies in the library system or access the online edition (via Databases) or the Chicago style guide at OWL at Purdue University (via Citing Sources).

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