

Historical Abstracts is one of the most important bibliographical databases for history. It indexes journal publications since 1954 on the history of the world from 1450 to the present (excluding the United States and Canada, which are covered in *America: History and Life* – see the EBSCO handout). As well as journal articles, it includes dissertations and some book reviews.

### Connecting to Historical Abstracts and searching

1. Go to SOLO (<http://solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk>) and search for Historical Abstracts. Once you have found the online version click **Online access** to connect. Alternatively, go to Databases A-Z (<https://libguides.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/az.php>) and search for 'Historical Abstracts'.
2. Look at the search terms that you came up with in the 'Building a search' exercise earlier and work out how you use the terms you identified in Historical Abstracts.
  - What key concepts did you identify in the 'Building a search exercise'? In Historical Abstracts it is easiest to put each distinct concept on a separate line in the search form, e.g. in the example below the key concepts are catholic, priest and England.
  - If you identified synonyms or alternative words for your search terms enter these on the same line in the search form and add OR in between them, e.g. priest OR clergy.
  - To find alternative word endings use \* e.g. Catholic\* finds Catholic, Catholics, Catholicism.

Searching: **Historical Abstracts** | [Choose Databases](#)

catholic*	SU Subject Terms
AND <input type="checkbox"/> priest* OR clergy	SU Subject Terms
AND <input type="checkbox"/> England	SU Subject Terms

- You can limit your search to a particular historical period or date range (e.g. 1558-1603 for the Elizabethan period) using the Historical Period options towards the bottom of the screen on the right.

New Search | Cited References | CLIO Notes | Indexes | Sign In | Folder | Preferences | Languages | Help

Searching: **Historical Abstracts** | [Choose Databases](#)

catholic\*  Select a Field (optio...   ?

AND  priest OR clergy OR monk  Select a Field (optio...

AND  England  Select a Field (optio...

Basic Search | Advanced Search | Search History

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Search Options

**Search Modes and Expanders**

Search modes  ?

BooleanPhrase  Apply related words

Find all my search terms

Find any of my search terms

SmartText Searching [Link](#)

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**Limit your results**

Linked Full Text

Published Date

Month  Year  - Month  Year

References Available

Peer Reviewed

Historical Period

Year: 1558

e.e. (AD)

to Year: 1603

c.e. (AD)

example: 400 b.c.e. to 200 c.e.

Historical period options

## Working with your results

- Once you have found an article that interests you:
  - Click on the title to see more information including an abstract.
  - Email** the article to yourself or **export** it to a reference management package such as EndNote or RefWorks using the options on the right-hand side of the screen.

Note, to email or export several items at once - for each item in the results screen, click the blue folder button (on the right), then choose **Go to Folder view** (also on the right).

## Connecting to full text

4. To find the full text click 'Find it @ Oxford'. You will be taken to SOLO, which will display the item's details. Depending on the availability of the text, you will be given options to read the PDF online or find a print copy of the item in the Bodleian Libraries.

## Finding more databases for your subject

5. Find the recommendations for your subject on LibGuides.
  - Go to <http://libguides.bodleian.ox.ac.uk> and choose **Subjects A-Z** followed by **History > Guides to History collections**.
  - You will be taken to a directory of research guides organised by country, period or topic. Choose a research guide which is appropriate to your research.

The screenshot shows the Bodleian Libraries website interface. At the top, the Bodleian Libraries logo and 'Subject and research guides' are visible. Below the logo, the breadcrumb trail reads 'Bodleian Libraries / Oxford LibGuides / History / Guides to History collections'. The main heading is 'History: Guides to History collections', followed by a sub-heading 'An overview of guides to History collections in Oxford.' and a list of subjects including 'History', 'Church History', 'Early Modern, 1500-1800', etc. A yellow callout box with a pointer to the navigation tabs contains the text: 'Research guides are listed by country, period and topic'. The navigation tabs include 'Home', 'Guides to History collections', 'History Thesis Fair for Undergraduates', 'Research training for historians', and 'Keeping up-to-date'. Below the tabs, there is a section for 'LGBTQ+ History Hackathon Fri 29 Nov 2024' and a 'Guides, guide and more guides' section with filters for 'By country / region', 'By historical period', 'By topic or theme', 'Archives, Early printed books & Maps', and 'Database guides (selections)'. Under 'By country / region', there are sections for 'Africa' (with links for African Studies and Commonwealth countries) and 'The Americas' (with links for Commonwealth countries, Latin America, and United States).

6. You can also find database recommendations on Databases A-Z.
  - Connect to Databases A-Z at <https://libguides.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/az.php>.
  - Choose your subject from the subject drop down menu.

## Databases A-Z

Find the best library databases for your research.

All Subjects	All Database Types	All Vendors / Providers	Search for Databases	Go
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All [A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#) <#>

[LIVE CHAT \(click to open\)](#)

- Once you have chosen a subject, you will then see a full list of databases in your chosen subject.