

Political Science



The study of government, politics, and power, how they work, how they're organized, and how they affect people's lives.



OVERVIEW

Political science is the study of how people organize, distribute, and use power within communities, nations, and the international system. The field combines theory and empirical research to examine government institutions, political behavior, and the ideas that shape political life at every level of society

It explores how laws are made and enforced, how citizens choose their leaders, and how leaders and citizens interact to affect social, economic, and global outcomes.

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- Political Databases
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Did You Know?

Diplomat, playwright, and historian Niccolò Machiavelli (1469 – 1527), author of *The Prince*, is considered the first modern Western political scientist. [Learn More](#)

POLITICAL SCIENCE FAQ

Here are a few basic questions about the discipline of political science, along with resources on majoring in the field.

1 What do political scientist study?

Political scientists study a wide range of topics, including the structure and function of governments, the implementation of public policies, the political psychology of individuals and groups, and the dynamics of political processes. For an in-depth description of the field of political science, see the free article available on [Encyclopedia Britannica's](#) public website.

2 What are the main fields of political science study?

Political science covers a wide range of topic areas. However, it is traditionally divided into four areas of study:

- American government
- Comparative politics
- International relations
- Political theory

3 What other subjects are important to political research?

Political science is one of the most interdisciplinary disciplines studied in the social sciences. It draws from law, history, economics, public policy, sociology, psychology, philosophy, and many other disciplines. [Political methodology](#) is also an area of growing importance in political science. **Political methodologists** specialize in developing and applying quantitative and qualitative research methods in political science. Most political science majors are required to take at least one methods course that introduces them to a range of research approaches.

4 What resources are available for new political science majors?

If you're considering or just starting as a political science major, these resources will give you helpful background and direction. They explain what to expect from the major and the wide variety of career paths available in the field.

- [Tips for Choosing to Study Political Science](#) (American Association of Political Science)
- [What You Need to Know About Becoming a Political Science Major](#) (U.S. News & World Report)
- [What Can You Do With Your Political Science Degree?](#) (Princeton Review/Youtube)

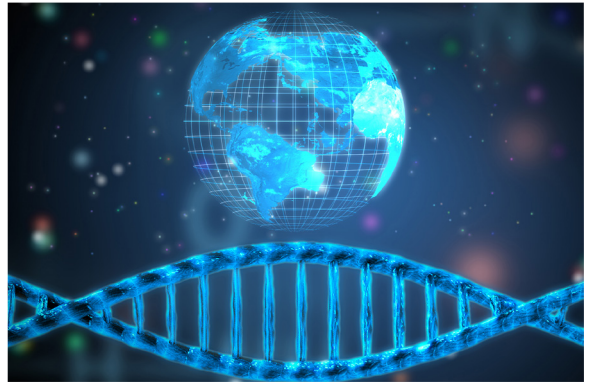
POLITICAL SUBFIELDS

American Government



The study of how the U.S. political system functions, including Congress, the Executive, and the Judiciary.

Biopolitics



The study of the intersection of politics and biology, examining how biological factors influence political decisions.

Comparative Politics



The systematic study and comparison of political institutions and the electoral and government systems of the world.

Elections and Voting



The study of how people choose leaders, make decisions, and how different voting systems affect these processes.

Environmental Politics



The study of how governments, communities, and industries make decisions about the environment.

Human Rights



The study of how information is shared and exchanged between political actors, the media, and the public.

Political Communication



The study of how information is shared and exchanged between political actors, the media, and the public.

Political Data



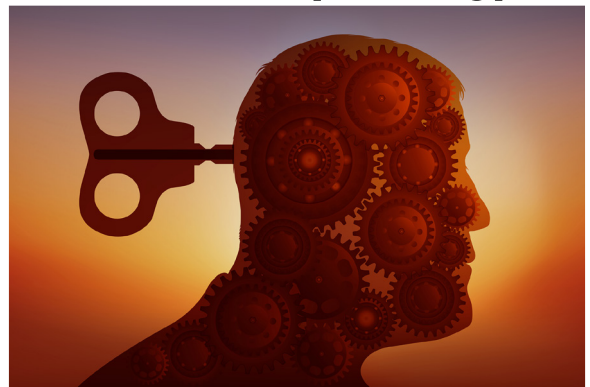
The collecting and analyzing of data and information related to political activities to understand and predict political behavior.

Political Economy



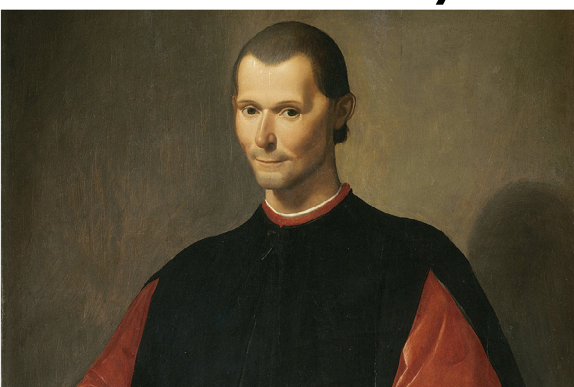
The study of how economic production connects with, and is shaped by, social and political forces.

Political Psychology



The study of how political events and people's thoughts, emotions, and behaviors influence political decisions.

Political Theory



The study of the major historical and philosophical influences on the development of political concepts and theory.

Public Policy



The study of principles, objectives, and courses of action that a government pursues in addressing societal issues.

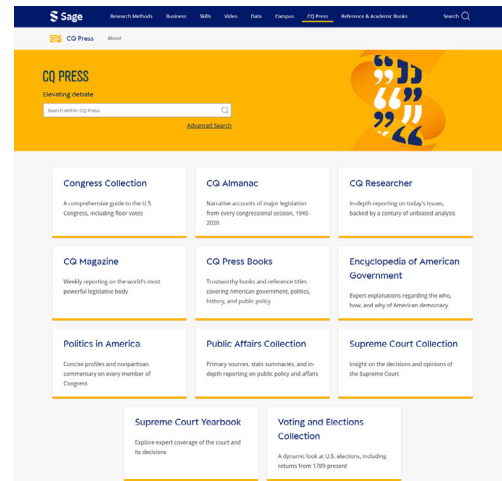
POLITICAL REFERENCE

Political reference sources provide a convenient way to locate background information for research on major political events, key people, important concepts, and significant political issues. This section lists major political science reference materials by type, beginning with CQ Press Library, one of the most well-known databases for U.S. government reference information.

CQ Press Library

[CQ Press Library](#) is one of the best-known reference databases for **U.S. politics** and **government** research. Resources focus on **American government, U.S. politics, current affairs, U.S. political history, and public policy**. It includes many unique reference databases, particularly useful for U.S. congressional research and locating basic data on voting and elections.

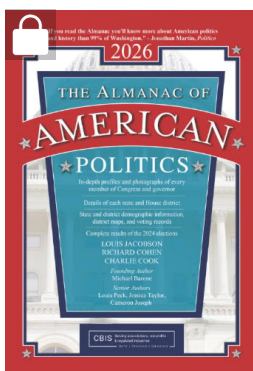
The following are some of the most comprehensive reference resources used by political science researchers. Images are linked to either publisher websites or Amazon pages providing full descriptions of each resource.



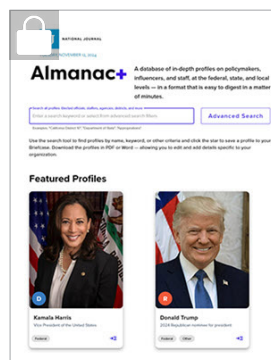
Almanacs and Yearbooks

Political almanacs provide information about political systems, elections, government officials, and related data. They include election results, biographical and professional details of current and past government officials, overviews of legislatures, profiles of major and minor political parties, and summaries of major policy issues.

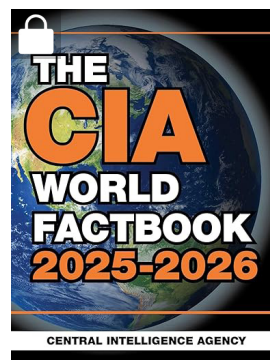
Yearbooks, such as *Europa World Year Book* and *The Statesman's Yearbook*, are annual reference books that provide up-to-date information and statistics about countries and international organizations worldwide. They include political and economic overviews, information about governments, leaders, political parties, key economic statistics, and other factual details.



Almanac of American Politics



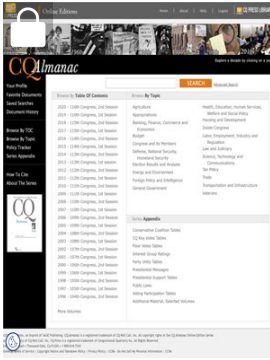
Almanac + (National Journal)



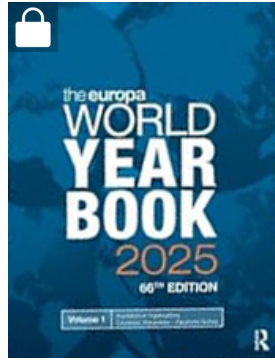
CIA World Factbook (Print)



The CIA World Factbook (Online)



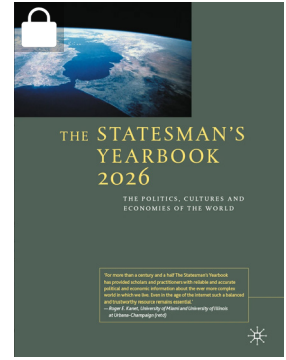
CQ Almanac



The Europa World Year Book



The Political Handbook of the World



The Statesman's Yearbook

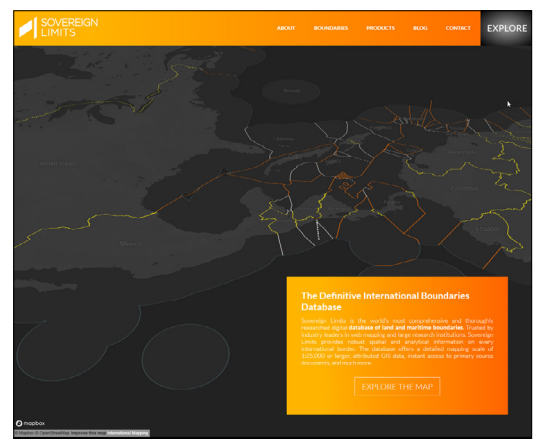
Atlases and Maps

Atlases and maps provide valuable spatial and geographic context, helping scholars and researchers understand how geography, borders, resources, and territory influence politics, power, and international relations. Maps are especially important for revealing politically disputed areas, changing boundaries, and regions with overlapping claims.

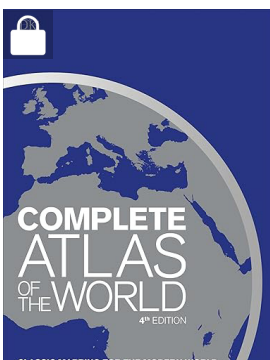
Top reference source on international land and maritime boundaries

Sovereign Limits

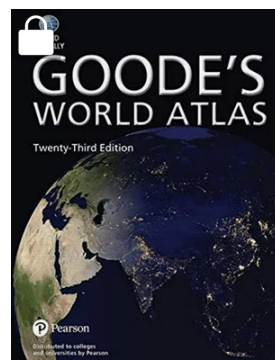
[Sovereign Limits](#) is a detailed digital repository mapping out every internationally recognized land and maritime border. It offers both an interactive web map and downloadable GIS data. Each border in the database is accompanied by a “Boundary Brief,” which outlines the boundary’s history, key legal/treaty documents, and annotated maps.



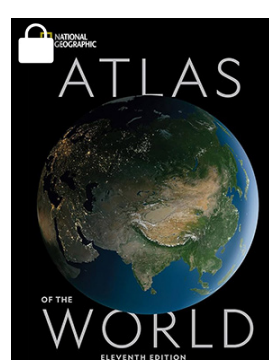
Important atlas and map resources



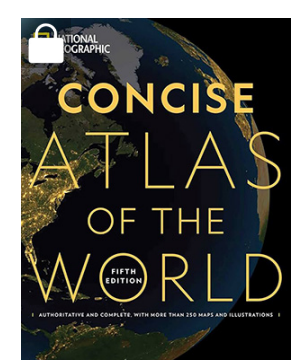
Complete Atlas of the World (DK)



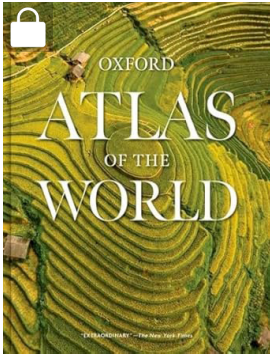
Goode's World Atlas



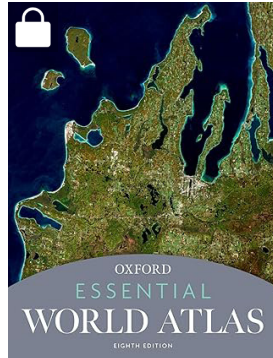
National Geographic Atlas of the World



National Geographic Concise Atlas of the World



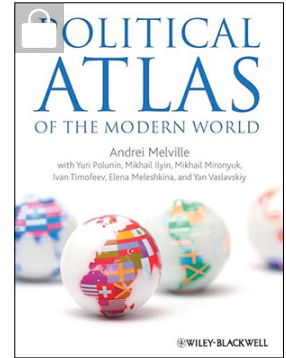
Oxford Atlas of the World



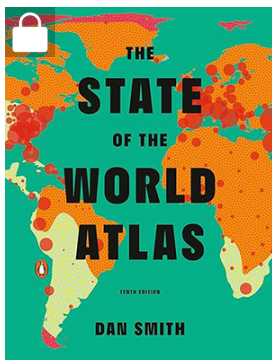
Oxford Essential World Atlas



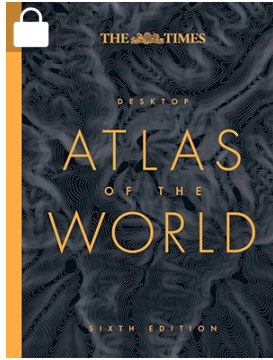
Oxford New Concise World Atlas



Political Atlas of the Modern World



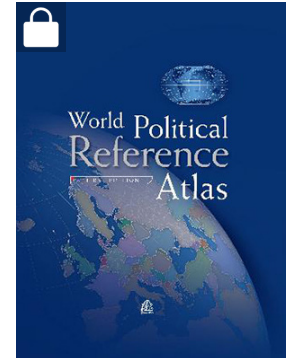
State of the World Atlas



Times Desk Atlas of the World



World Atlas of Global Issues



World Political Reference Atlas

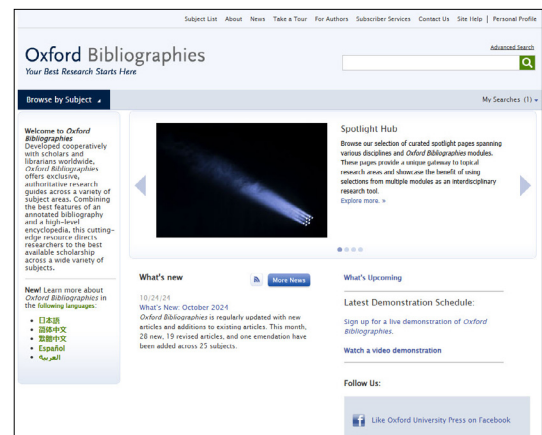
Bibliographies

A **bibliography** lists the sources referenced in a research project, including books, articles, documents, websites, and other academic materials used in the research.

Top reference source for scholarly bibliographies

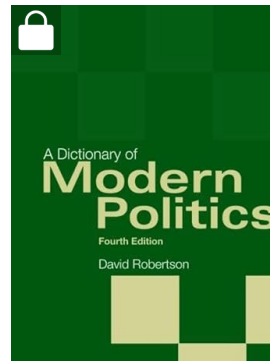
Oxford Bibliographies

[Oxford Bibliographies](#) is the leading resource for bibliographies in academic research. It provides scholarly bibliographies in various social science disciplines, including anthropology, communication, criminology, economics, political science, psychology, and sociology. Each bibliography provides a list of authoritative books, journal articles, websites, and other materials, all organized by academic scholars. Sources are organized thematically, including a summary and evaluation of each source and a brief description of its significance or relevance to the topic.

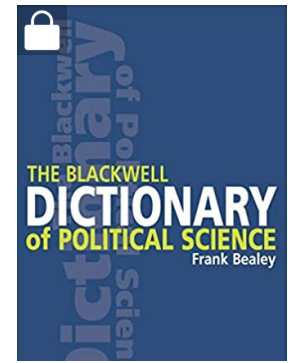


Dictionaries

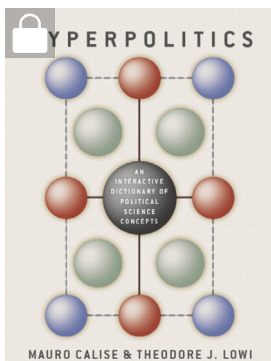
Dictionaries are important for understanding and contextualizing words, concepts, and terminology. Various political science dictionaries provide clarity when exploring complex political concepts, systems, and theories, offering clear definitions of key political terms.



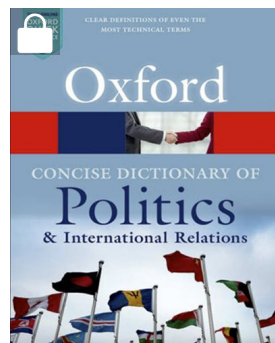
A Dictionary of Modern Politics



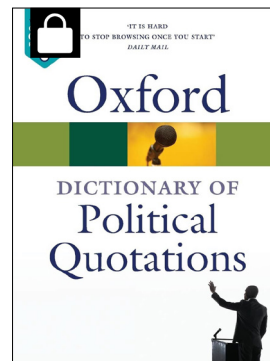
Blackwell Dictionary of Political Science



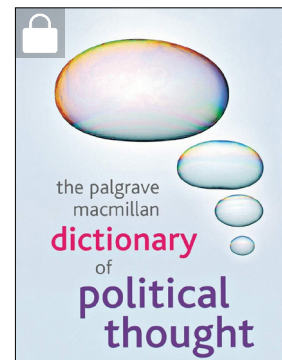
Hyperpolitics



Oxford Concise Dictionary of Politics & International Relations



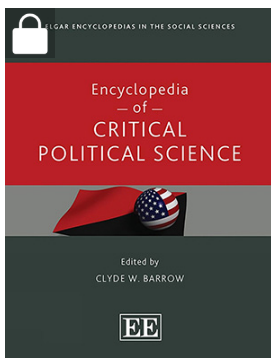
Oxford Dictionary of Political Quotations



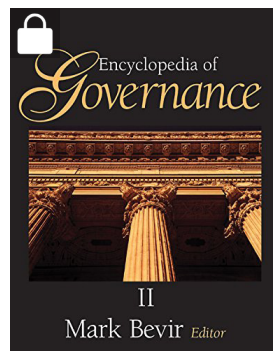
Palgrave MacMillan Dictionary of Political Thought

Encyclopedias

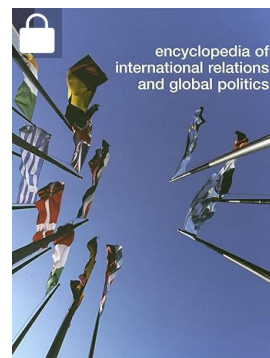
Subject encyclopedias are specialized reference sources that provide detailed information on topics within a particular academic discipline. Unlike general encyclopedias that cover many fields broadly, subject encyclopedias concentrate on one area, offering in-depth, expert-written entries. For encyclopedias focused on specific political science subfields, consult the Reference section in that specific [political subfield guide](#).



Encyclopedia of Critical Political Science



Encyclopedia of Governance



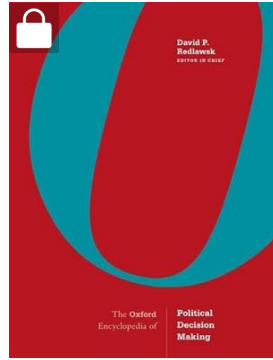
Encyclopedia of International Relations and Global Politics



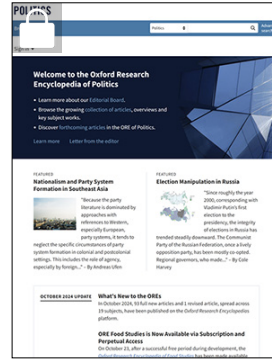
Encyclopedia of Political Science



International Encyclopedia of Political Science



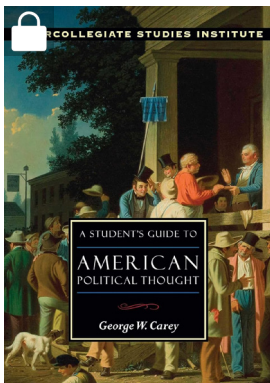
Oxford Encyclopedia of Political Decision Making



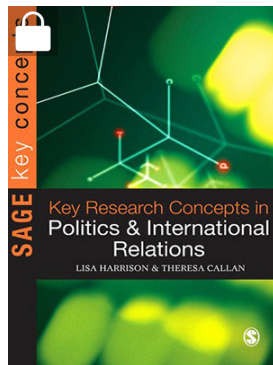
Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics

Introductions

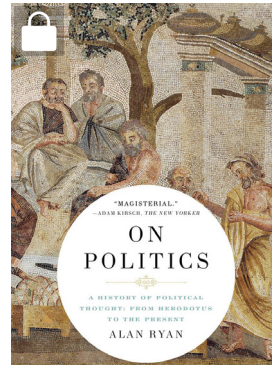
Introductions provide brief but comprehensive introductions to a subject. Written by experts, introductions present key ideas, theories, and debates understandably. The following books are ideal for readers new to political science, providing foundational knowledge without requiring prior expertise.



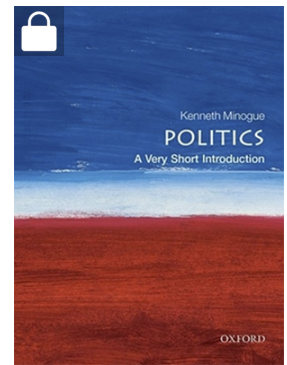
A Student's Guide to American Political Thought



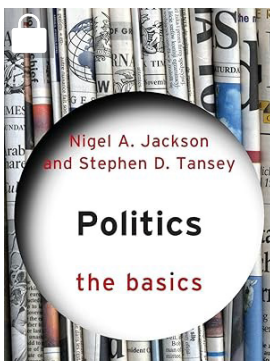
Key Research Concepts in Politics and International Relations



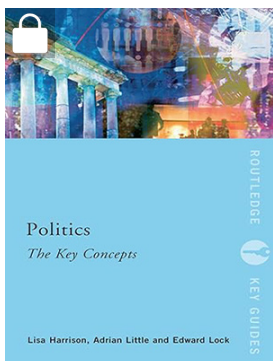
On Politics: A History of Political Thought



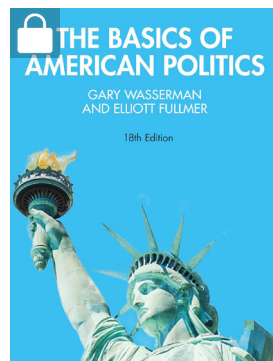
Politics: A Very Short Introduction



Politics: The Basics



Politics: The Key Concepts



The Basics of American Politics

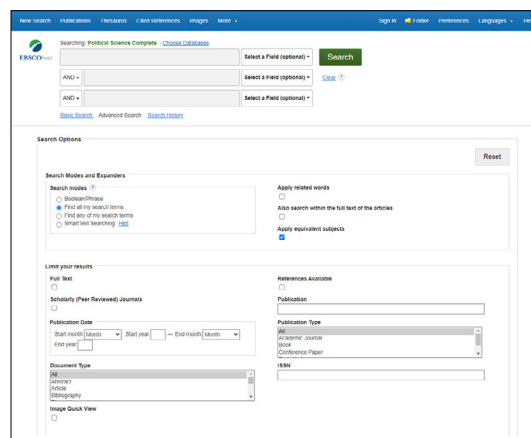
GENERAL DATABASES

Academic libraries subscribe to a diverse range of research databases. **EBSCO** and **ProQuest** are two of the largest providers of research databases. Most universities offer access to one or both of these platforms. Here are some key insights about each platform:

- Both are multidisciplinary research databases covering multiple disciplines.
- Both provide access to dozens of subject databases through a single search interface, enabling users to search multiple databases simultaneously.
- Both provide a varied mix of e-books, scholarly journals, peer-reviewed journals, trade publications, magazines, images, and newspapers.
- General databases such as EBSCO and ProQuest are especially helpful for interdisciplinary topics that don't fit neatly within a single disciplinary field.
- Most materials come from peer-reviewed journals, academic publishers, and other reputable sources.

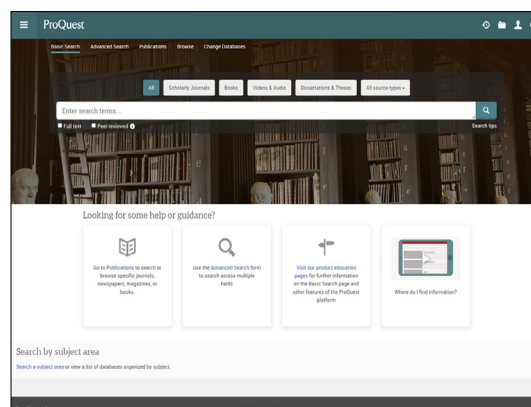
EBSCOhost

[EBSCOhost](#) is a major research database platform that allows users to search multiple EBSCO databases simultaneously. The difference between EBSCOhost and Academic Search is that [Academic Search](#) can be searched as part of the EBSCOhost platform or searched separately if your institution has a subscription. To check if your institution subscribes to EBSCOhost, use EBSCO's [Find your institution](#) page.



ProQuest

[ProQuest](#) is a major database vendor and platform that provides access to hundreds of database collections. The ProQuest platform provides a multidisciplinary search with access to scholarly ebooks, journals, video and audio, newspapers, and more, all searchable simultaneously. ProQuest is unique for providing [dissertations](#) and [theses](#), [historical newspapers](#), and other primary sources.



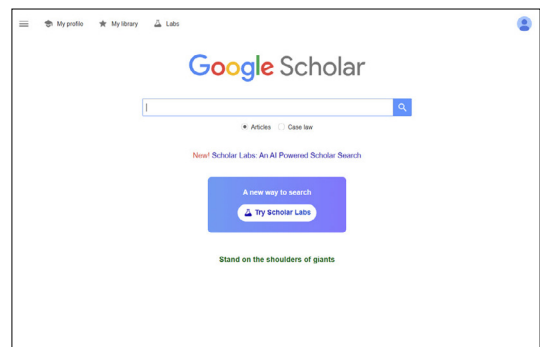
SCHOLARLY DATABASES

Scholarly research databases provide **peer-reviewed** academic journal articles, book reviews, and other scholarly resources authored by scholars, researchers, or academics who are experts in their fields. Unlike **magazines** (*Time*, *Newsweek*, etc.) that focus on current events, news, and general-interest stories written by journalists, articles in scholarly journals undergo rigorous review before publication.

If your assignment requires the use of scholarly, peer-reviewed articles, here is a list of several of the most important **multidisciplinary scholarly research databases**.

Google Scholar

[Google Scholar](#) is a free academic search engine that helps researchers, students, and academics find scholarly literature across various disciplines. It indexes peer-reviewed journal articles, books, conference papers, theses, and patents from academic publishers, universities, and professional organizations.

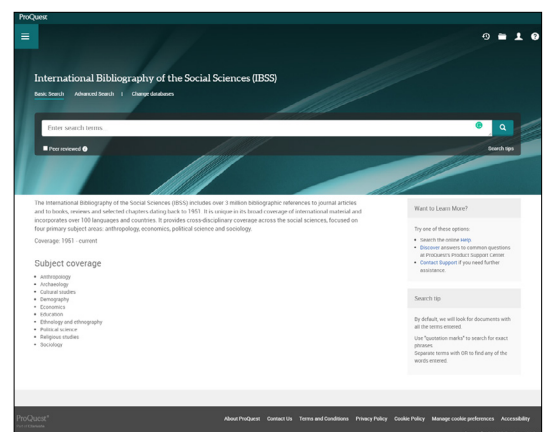


Important things to know about Google Scholar

- Unlike subscription databases, which publish lists of the journals included in their collections, Google Scholar does not provide a list of journals, books, or other materials it indexes.
- General databases such as EBSCO and ProQuest allow you to limit your results to peer-reviewed articles only. Google Scholar does not filter results for peer-reviewed articles.
- You must enable your institution's Google Scholar library links (review process) to see full-text articles available in your institution. If Library Links are not enabled, you will only see paywalls and what's available open-access in the public domain.

International Bibliography of the Social Science (IBSS)

[The International Bibliography of the Social Sciences \(IBSS\)](#), compiled by the British Library of Political and Economic Science at the London School of Economics, provides access to a vast collection of scholarly literature in the social sciences. Covering multiple disciplines, IBSS includes references to **journal articles, books, newspapers, and dissertations**, with records dating back to 1951.





[JSTOR](#) is an important scholarly research database for the humanities, social sciences, and sciences. It provides the full text of articles from thousands of influential academic journals. In addition to journal articles, users can access eBooks, book chapters, and primary source documents. JSTOR also provides an AI research tool that provides summaries and arguments of articles.



Important things to know about JSTOR

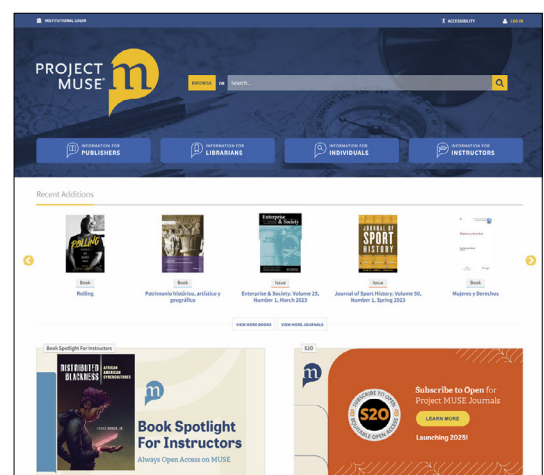
JSTOR contains the full text of more than 2,000 journals from 1,000 publishers, with publication dates ranging from 1665 to current (for certain titles). JSTOR also provides:

- Free access to Early Journal Content published before the last 95 years in the United States or before the last 143 years if initially published internationally.
- A collection of nearly 150 open-access journals covering the humanities, social sciences, and sciences.
- Allows anyone to register for a **free personal JSTOR account** and provides access to 100 free monthly articles.

***NOTE:** Many journals in JSTOR have an embargo period or delay of 3 to 5 years. This means there is a gap in the availability of current issues of most JSTOR journals. For recent articles not available in JSTOR, search EBSCO or ProQuest.

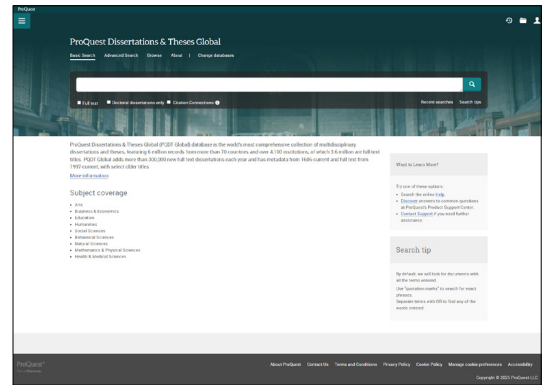


[Project MUSE](#) offers online access to a vast collection of scholarly journals, books, and academic resources in the humanities, social sciences, and arts. As a leading provider of [digital humanities](#) content, it features high-quality, peer-reviewed publications from prestigious university presses, scholarly societies, and academic publishers.



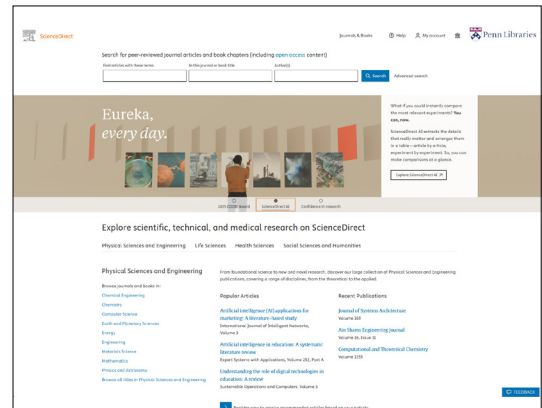
ProQuest Dissertations & Theses

[ProQuest Dissertations & Theses](#) is a database of dissertations and theses from universities worldwide. It provides access to millions of full-text works across many disciplines, including the social sciences, humanities, sciences, and business. Each dissertation provides abstracts or summaries, which provide a concise overview of the research, its methodology, and key findings.



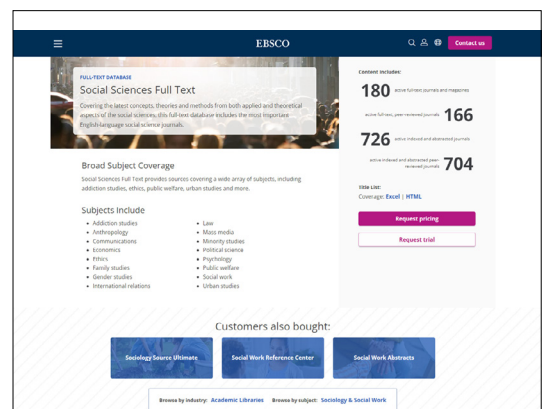
ScienceDirect

[ScienceDirect](#) is a leading full-text scholarly scientific database that provides journal articles and book chapters from more than 2,500 peer-reviewed journals and more than 11,000 books. It covers over 24 major subjects in the physical sciences and engineering, life sciences, health sciences, social sciences, and the humanities.



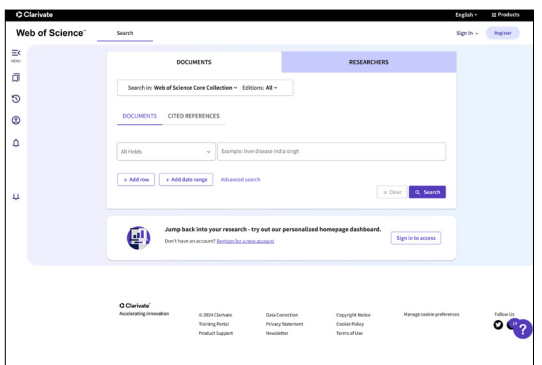
Social Sciences Full Text

[Social Sciences Full Text](#) provides access to a wide range of scholarly literature in the social sciences. It covers many disciplines, including anthropology, communications, economics, international relations, law, mass media, minority studies, political science, psychology, public welfare, social work, and urban studies.



Web of Science

[Web of Science](#) is a comprehensive, multidisciplinary research and citation index that provides access to a wide range of scientific, technical, social science, and humanities research. It maintains rigorous criteria for the journals and publications it indexes, ensuring that only high-quality, peer-reviewed content is included. Web of Science includes 98 million papers dating back to 1900.



POLITICAL DATABASES

Searching general databases can sometimes provide an overwhelming number of results. To refine your search, consider using a **subject-specific** research database. The following research databases specialize in political science, covering topics like international relations, comparative politics, public policy, and political theory.

Annual Review of Political Science

The [Annual Reviews](#) are peer-reviewed academic journals that publish comprehensive and critical literature review articles in many academic disciplines. The [Annual Review of Political Science](#) publishes literature reviews of major developments across the field, including political theory, international relations, political economy, political behavior, American and comparative politics, public administration, public policy, and research methodology.



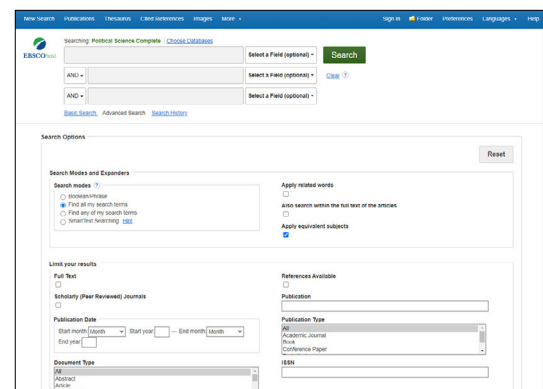
Columbia International Affairs Online

[Columbia International Affairs Online \(CIAO\)](#) is a public policy database for the study and practice of international relations, global policy, and diplomacy. CIAO provides scholarly journals, policy briefs, conference proceedings, working papers, and e-books produced by leading think tanks, research institutes, and publishers worldwide. CIAO also provides case studies, country profiles, and interactive datasets.



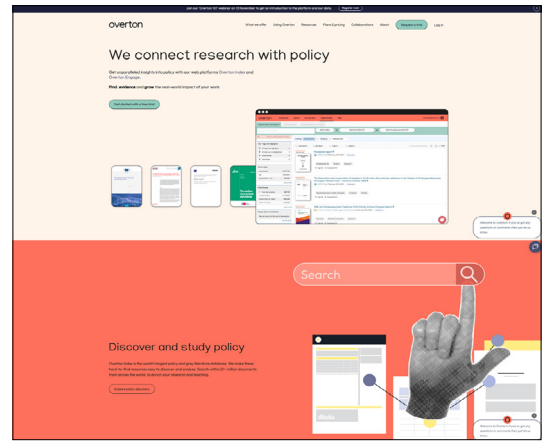
EBSCO Political Science Complete

[Political Science Complete](#) is a full-text research database providing comprehensive coverage of political science literature, including journals, books, conference papers, and other publications. It encompasses various sub-disciplines within political science, such as political theory, comparative politics, and international relations, public administration, and more.

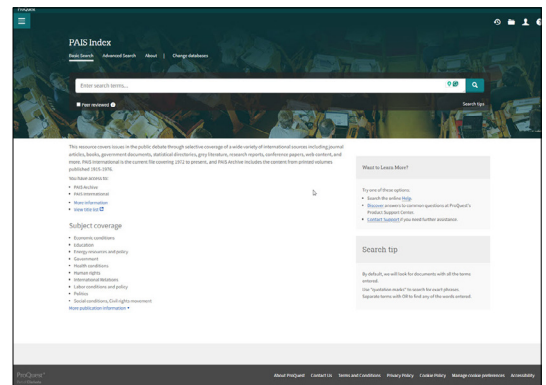




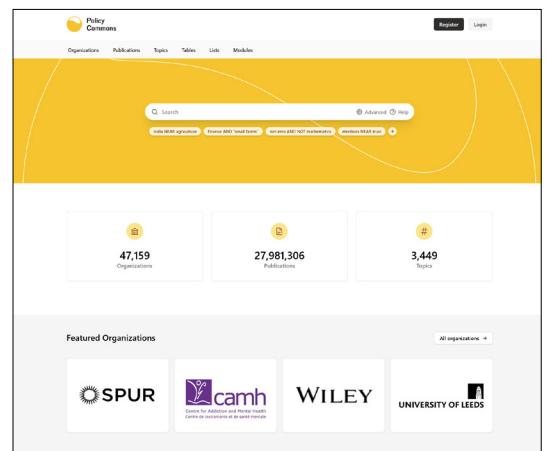
[Overton](#) is the world’s largest database for tracking the influence of research on public policy. Overton provides policy documents, official reports, guidelines, and parliamentary records from governments, think tanks, and international organizations worldwide. It has the largest collection of policy-related material, hard to find resources, and gray literature linked to academic research.



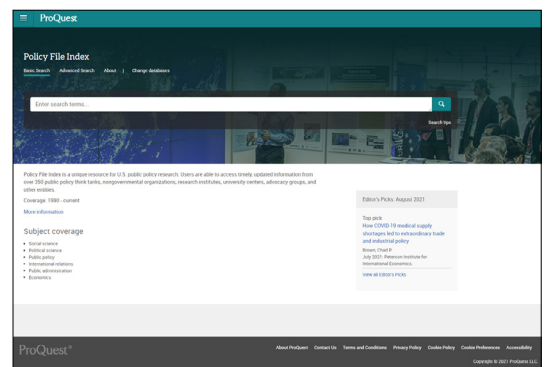
[PAIS® Index](#) is a public policy database that tracks scholarship and policy research in public affairs, social sciences, and international relations. First developed in 1914 to organize literature on important public issues, PAIS provides an index of journal articles, books, government documents, statistical reports, conference proceedings, and gray literature.



[Policy Commons](#) is a database that provides access to policy reports, working papers, briefs, and other publications from think tanks, NGOs, research institutes, and international organizations. It contains millions of documents covering topics such as economics, governance, environment, health, and international affairs. It also includes archived content from organizations that no longer maintain their own websites.



[Policy File Index](#) is a ProQuest database that provides public policy research and analysis produced by think tanks, nongovernmental organizations, research institutes, and university centers. It covers topics such as economics, foreign policy, security, environment, education, and social issues. It also includes materials such as policy briefs, reports, and working papers, which are primarily published in the United States.



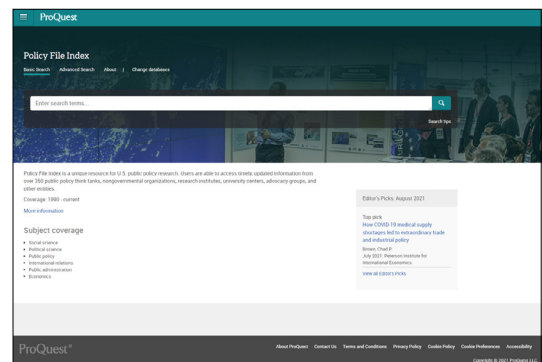
Political Science Network

The [Political Science Network](#) is part of the Social Science Research Network (SSRN), an online repository and preprint server where researchers can upload working papers. It is an open-access service that provides “early print” research and working papers before they are published in journals. SSRN includes book chapters, PhD dissertations, course and teaching materials, presentations, and research posters.



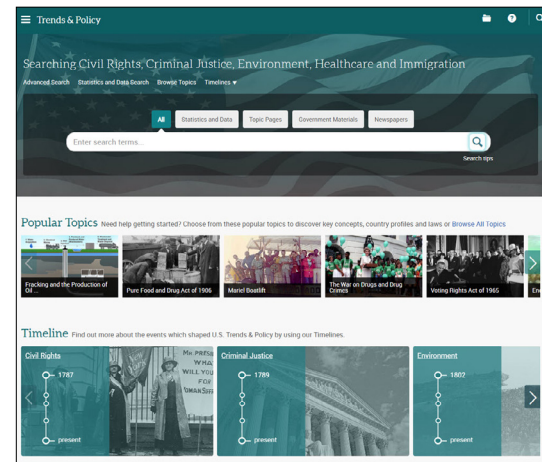
ProQuest Political Science

[ProQuest Political Science](#) provides access to high-quality, full-text articles from over 500 leading scholarly, peer-reviewed political science and international relations journals. It also provides access to recent, full-text political science dissertations from U.S. and Canadian universities and working papers from the Political Science Research Network.



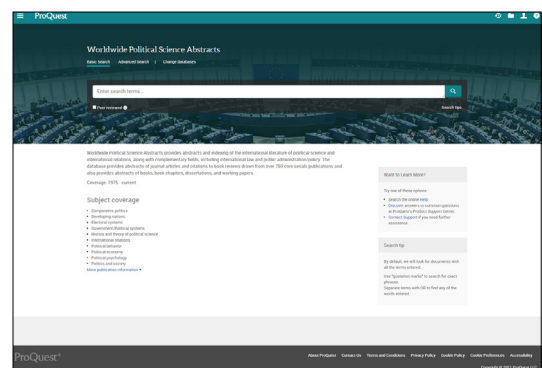
ProQuest Trends and Policies

[ProQuest Trends and Policies](#) compiles primary source documents related to U.S. government policy. It includes congressional hearings, committee prints, reports, legislative research studies, and other materials that document the development of public policy over time. It's organized around seven key topics: Civil Rights, Civil Criminal Justice, Environment, Healthcare, Immigration, Taxes, and the IRS.



Worldwide Political Science Abstracts

[Worldwide Political Science Abstracts](#) provides citations, abstracts, and indexing of the international serials literature in political science and its complementary fields, including international relations, law, and public administration. 67% of the monitored journals are published outside the United States, and nearly 500,000 records beginning in 1975. Coverage includes general political science, international relations, and comparative politics.

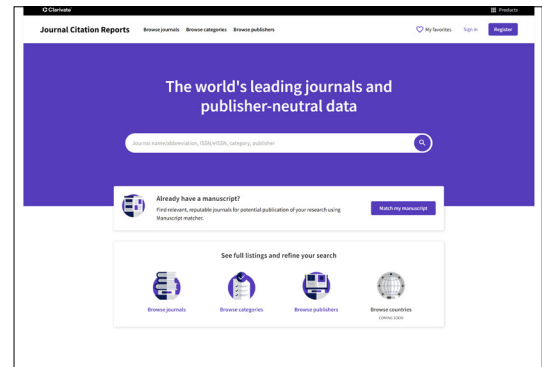


POLITICAL JOURNALS

When conducting scholarly research, you should cite articles from high-quality peer-reviewed journals. [Journal Citation Reports \(JCR\)](#) is widely regarded as one of the best and most authoritative subscription databases for evaluating the impact and quality of scholarly journals.

Journal Citation Reports

[Journal Citation Reports \(JCR\)](#) evaluates and compares journals using citation data from over 12,000 journals in the arts, humanities, sciences, and social sciences from respected publishers in over 80 countries. JCR shows journal rankings, impact factors, and citation data, which can help you quickly find the most credible and widely respected journals in your subject area.



Most Cited Political Science Journals of 2024

[Journal Citation Reports](#) lists the [American Political Science Review](#) as the most cited political science journal for 2024. To review the JCR list of highly cited political science journals, go to [Journal Citation Reports](#) and choose **Categories > Social Sciences, General > Political Science**. Listed below are the 10 most cited political science journals for 2024.



American Political Science Review



American Journal of Political Science



Journal of Politics



International Organization



Comparative Political Studies



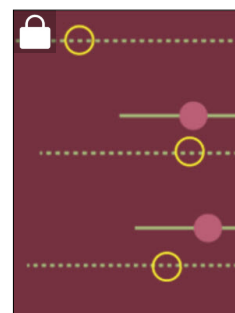
Journal of European Public Policy



Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory



Political Psychology



Annual Review of Political Science



Public Opinion Quarterly

POLITICAL NEWS

You're likely already familiar with major media sources that provide the latest news, opinions, and analyses of political events. These include [The New York Times](#), [MSNBC](#), [NPR](#), [CNN](#), [The Washington Post](#), [The Hill](#), and, [The Wall Street Journal](#). However, several subscription news sources scholars and academics use are crucial for staying up-to-date with political and government issues.

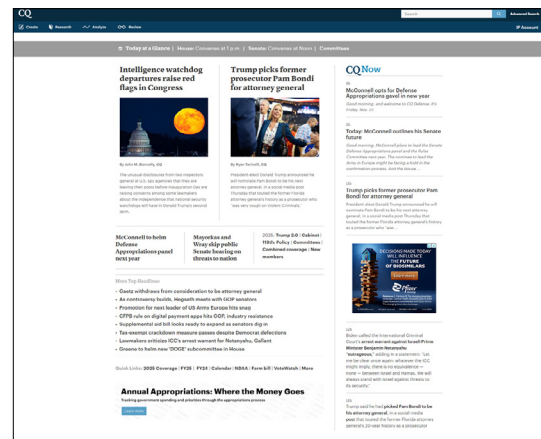
Congressional Quarterly Magazine

[Congressional Quarterly Magazine](#), or CQ Magazine (formerly CQ Weekly), is a political publication that provides in-depth coverage of the United States Congress and the federal government. It offers up-to-date analysis, news, and insights into congressional activities, legislation, elections, and politics.



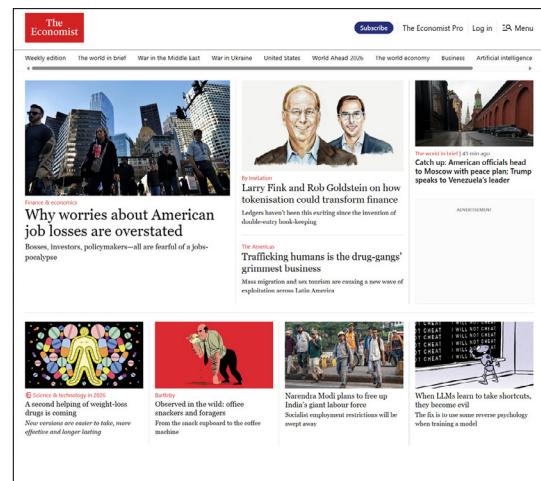
Congressional Quarterly News

[Congressional Quarterly News](#), or CQ News, provides up-to-date news and coverage of the United States Congress, congressional legislation, and government affairs. CQ News provides comprehensive reporting, policy news and analysis, legislative tracking, and news on legislative activities, policy developments, elections, and political news at the federal level.



The Economist

The [Economist](#) is a weekly British international magazine that provides up-to-date news and information on global politics and the economy. Widely regarded as one of the most influential magazines in the world, it covers current affairs, politics, business, finance, science, technology, and culture.



Foreign Policy

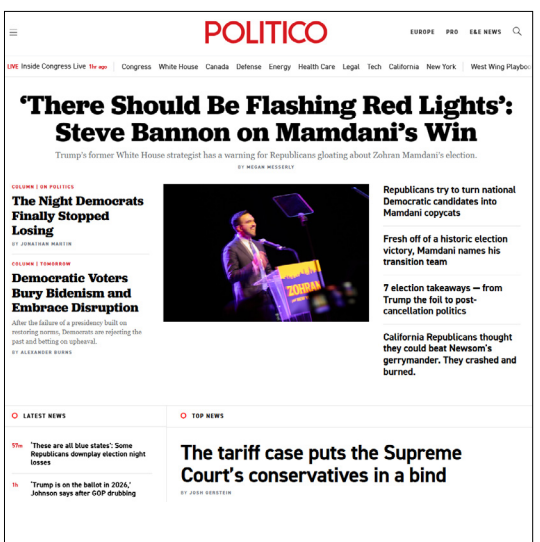
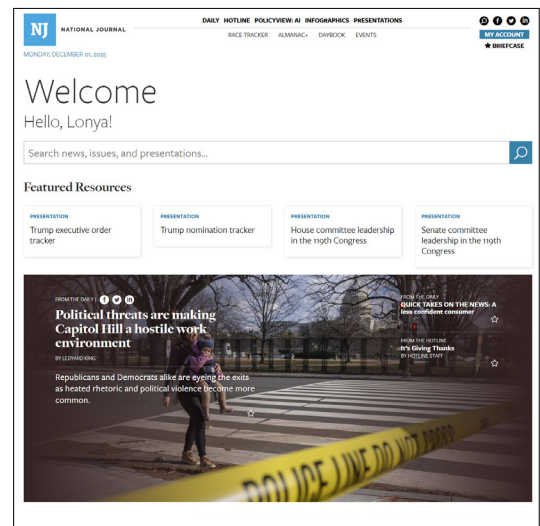
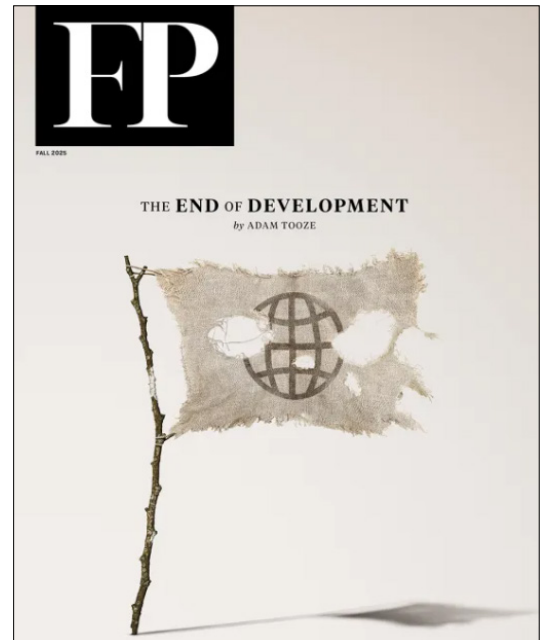
[Foreign Policy](#) focuses on global affairs and international relations. Founded in 1970, it is one of the leading publications in the field. Foreign Policy covers geopolitics, diplomacy, security, economics, human rights, development, relations between countries, the decisions governments and individual leaders make, and how global forces such as war, trade, climate change, technology, and diplomacy shape everyday life. Major regions covered include Asia and the Pacific, China, Middle East and Africa, the Americas, and Europe.

National Journal

The [National Journal](#) is a political news online magazine focused on politics and policy in the United States. It provides in-depth analysis, insights, and reporting on a range of issues, including government, legislation, campaigns, and political trends. The online subscription includes [Hotline](#), a daily newsletter that provides analysis of U.S. politics, focusing on elections, campaigns, and political trends; and [Almanac+](#), which provides in-depth political and demographic data and analysis of politicians and Congress.

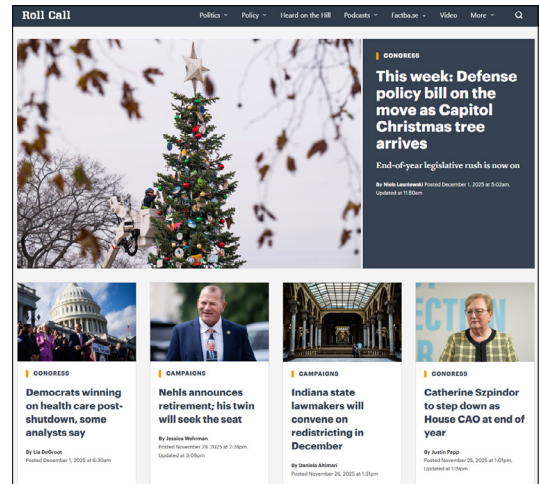
Politico

[POLITICO.com](#) is a major news organization that specializes in political journalism. It covers U.S. and international politics, policy, and government affairs, providing breaking news, analysis, and in-depth reporting. Most articles and general news on the [POLITICO.com](#) website are accessible without a subscription. **POLITICO Pro** is a premium, subscription-based service providing in-depth policy analysis, real-time alerts, and exclusive reports. It provides specialized coverage across multiple policy areas such as healthcare, technology, energy, and defense.



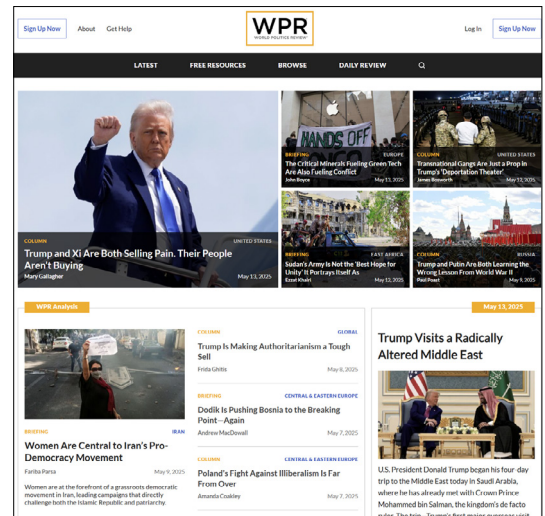
Roll Call

[Roll Call](#) is a news publication focusing on the U.S. Congress, politics, and government affairs. It provides in-depth coverage of legislative activities, policy developments, elections, and the inner workings of Capitol Hill. Roll Call is considered an important source of information for anyone interested in the insider politics of Congress, with frequent coverage on congressional members and political trends.



World Politics Review

The [World Politics Review](#) is an online magazine that provides in-depth analysis on global politics, foreign policy, and international relations. It covers a wide range of topics, including conflicts, economics, diplomacy, and the impact of global political trends. World Politics Review offers articles, reports, and special features written by experts.

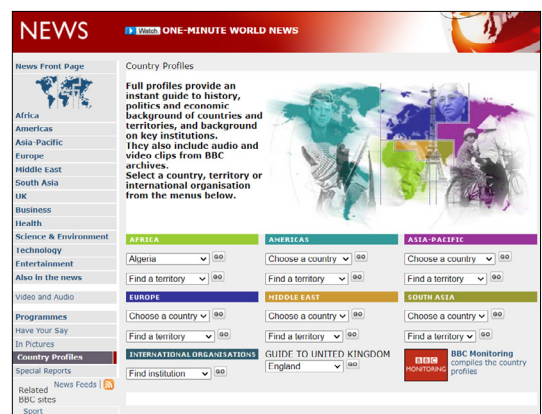


COUNTRY PROFILES

When studying political science, country profiles are great sources for locating factual information, data, and background information on the historical, political, institutional, and economic conditions of countries and territories.

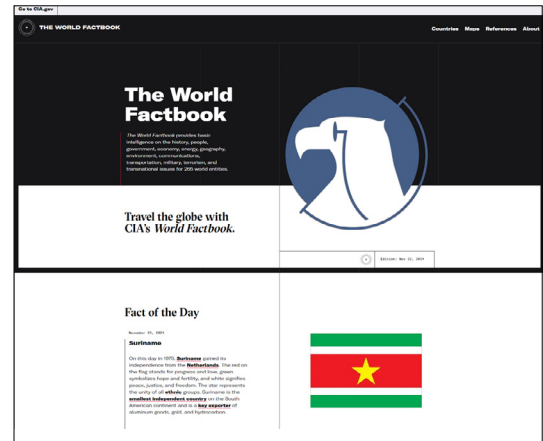
BBC News Country Profiles

[BBC News Country Profiles](#) provides historical overviews, economic conditions, institutional backgrounds, and a summary of current political events. Information provided includes current heads of state, major political figures, population, capitals, monetary units, and major religions.



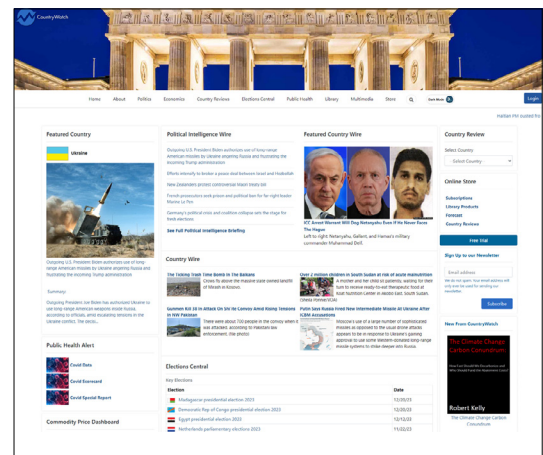
CIA World Factbook

The [CIA World Factbook](#) is a free, authoritative reference resource that provides factual, descriptive up-to-date information on every country and territory in the world. Developed by the [Central Intelligence Agency \(CIA\)](#), it provides updated country profiles of basic information on the history, demographics, government, economy, geography, communications, transportation, military, and transnational issues of 267 nations worldwide.



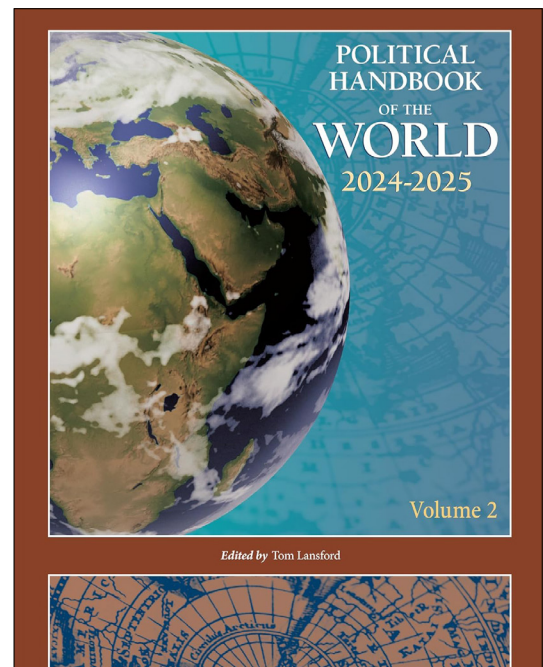
CountryWatch

[CountryWatch](#) is a geopolitical and global subscription news resource providing country reports for nearly 200 countries. It provides regularly updated publications for each country, including demographic, political, economic, business, cultural, and environmental information. **NOTE:** If your school or organization subscribes to one of the Lexis Nexis databases, (such as Nexis Uni) you can access selected individual CountryWatch profiles.



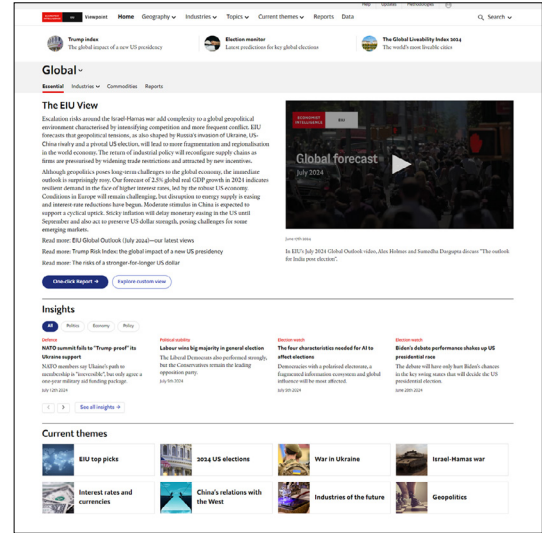
CQ Political Handbook of the World

The [CQ Political Handbook of the World](#), published by SAGE Congressional Quarterly, provides country-level data for more than 200 nations. It offers detailed information about political history, social movements, economics, and current issues. Users can browse by political and electoral systems across seven categories, including regime type, democracy, type, [Freedom House Rating](#), election rules, party, system, and system of government.



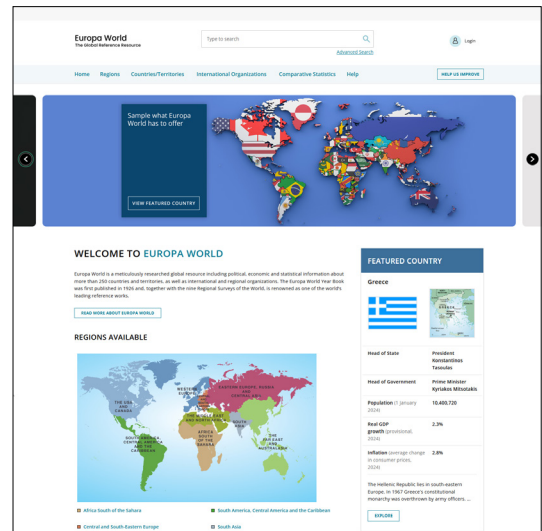
Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) - View Point

[EIU Viewpoint](#) (formerly Viewswire) is the new EIU platform that combines three products: Country Analysis, Financial Risk, and Operational Risk. Access to individual products depends on an institution's description. EIU Viewpoint provides political, policy, and economic analysis and data. It includes in-depth country reports, forecasts, analysis, and expert opinions on matters of economic and geopolitical significance.



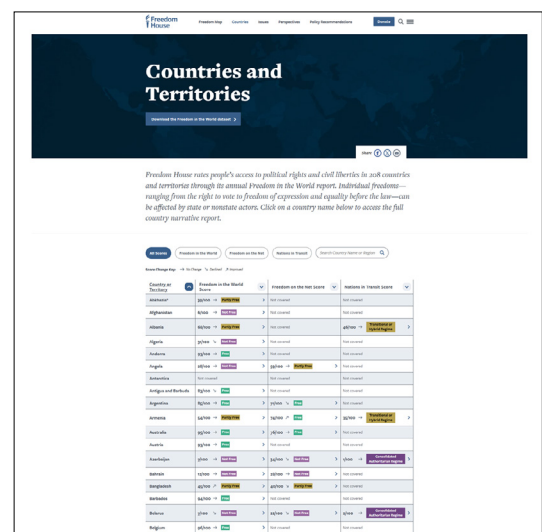
Europa World Plus

[Europa World Plus](#) is the online version of the famous reference source, Europa World Year Book. It provides political, economic, and historical information for over 250 countries and territories, including statistics. Europa World Plus also contains the nine-volume [Europa Regional Surveys of the World](#) series. Europa provides up-to-date government lists and recent election results for every country in the world, as well as a who's who of major political figures.



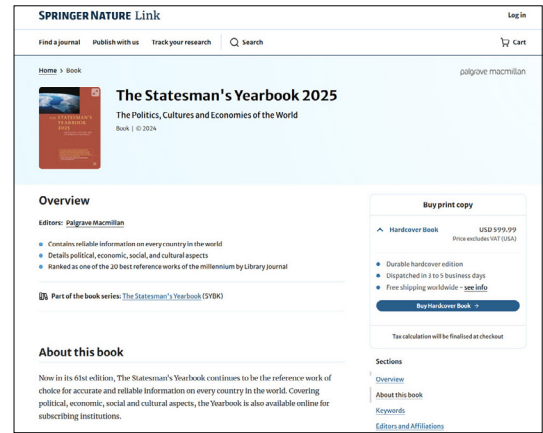
Freedom House - Countries and Territories

[Freedom House](#) is a non-governmental organization (NGO) based in the United States that conducts research and advocacy on democracy, political rights, and civil liberties worldwide. [Freedom House - Countries and Territories](#) provides ratings of citizens' access to political rights and civil liberties in 210 countries and 15 territories, ranging from 1 (**most free**) to 7 (**least free**).



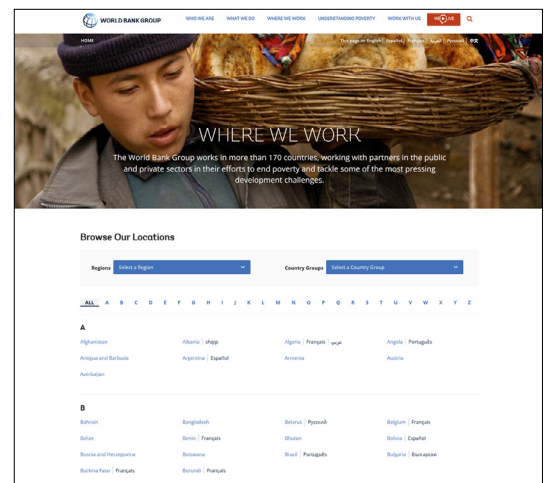
Statesman's Yearbook

The [Statesman's Yearbook](#) provides country profiles, with information on key historical events, demographics, city profiles, social statistics, climate, recent elections, current leaders, defense, international relations, economy, energy and natural resources, industry, international trade, religion, culture, and diplomatic representatives, and more.



World Bank Country Profiles

[World Bank Country Profiles](#) are reports and data summaries that provide an overview of the economic and social conditions of individual countries. These profiles are published by the World Bank, an international financial institution that provides loans and technical assistance to developing countries for over 150 nations.



RESEARCH METHODS

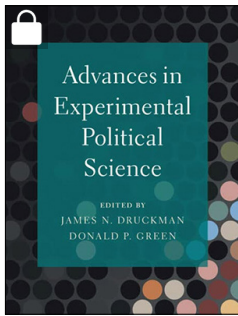
Research methods are how researchers gather and study information to help answer questions. In the social sciences, these methods can be qualitative (like interviews or observations) or quantitative (like surveys or statistics). As a student, you'll likely take a research methods course that introduces you to the basics of how social science research works. Below are some of the most helpful resources available that explain different types of research methods and discuss how to collect and analyze both qualitative and quantitative data.

Sage Research Methods

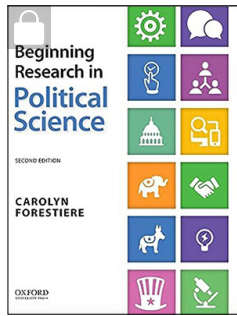
[Sage Research Methods](#) is a major subscription database that guides users in understanding research methodologies across different academic disciplines. It provides electronic access to reference books, journal articles, instructional videos, and other qualitative methods resources.

Political Science Methods Resources

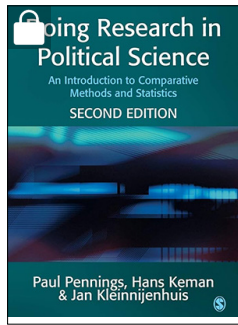
The following resources provide in-depth information on various research design concepts, methodologies, and techniques specific to the political sciences. For further details, we provide links to Amazon or the publisher's website. To locate each at your school, do a title search in your library's catalog.



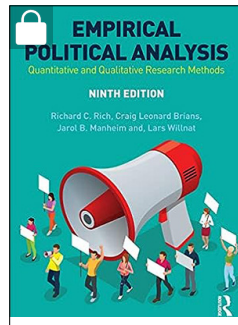
Advances in Experimental Political Science



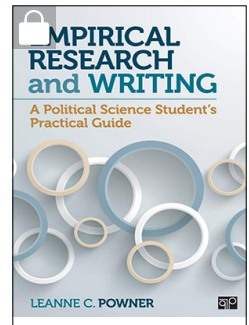
Beginning Research in Political Science



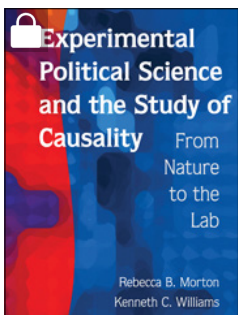
Doing Research in Political Science



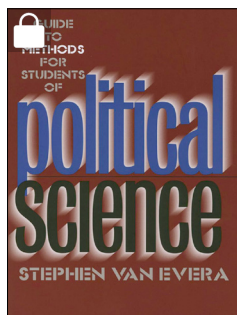
Empirical Political Analysis



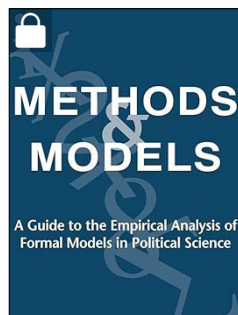
Empirical Research and Writing



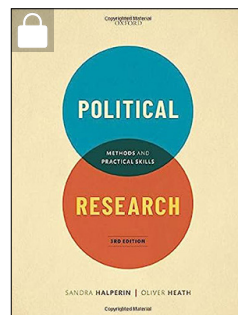
Experimental Political Science and the Study of Causality



Guide to Methods for Students of Political Science



Methods & Models



Political Research: Methods and Practical Skills



Political Science Research Methods



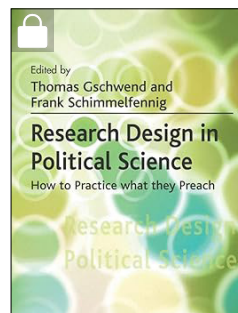
Political Science Research Methods in Action



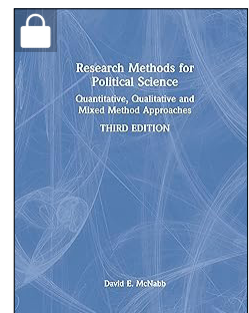
Qualitative Research in Politics and International Relations



Research Design in Political Science



Research Design in Political Science



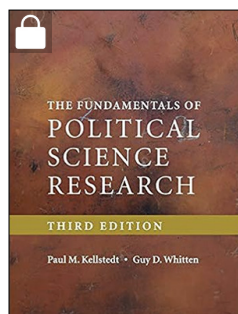
Research Methods for Political Science



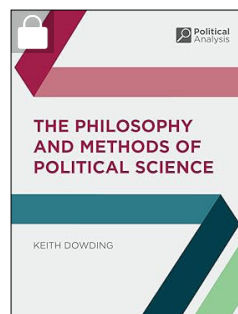
Research Methods for Political Science



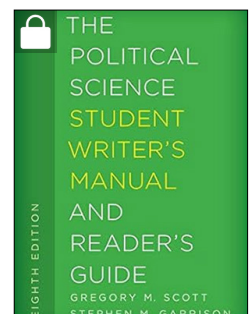
Research Methods in Politics and International Relations



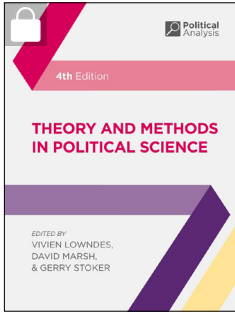
The Fundamentals of Political Science Research



The Philosophy and Methods of Political Science



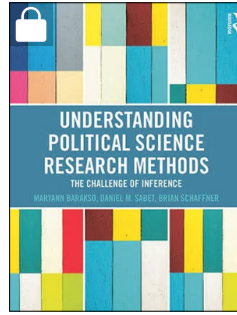
Public Opinion Quarterly



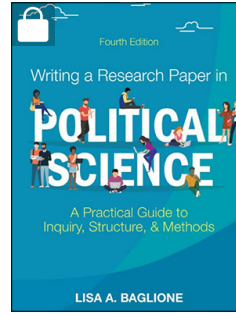
Theory and Methods in Political Science



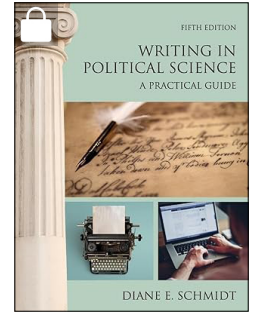
Thinking Like a Political Scientist



Public Opinion Quarterly



Understanding Political Science Research Methods



Writing in Political Science