

Latin American and Caribbean Studies Resource Guide

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This guide provides selected information resources for Latin American and Caribbean Studies as broadly defined: Mexico, Central America, South America, and the islands of the Caribbean, although different sources may cover different countries in these regions. Included are the Mildred F. Sawyer Library databases, web resources, and print and electronic reference resources. For specific book and periodical titles, check the [Suffolk University Library Catalog](#).

The Sawyer Library subscription reference resources, periodical indexes, and full-text databases are available to Suffolk University students, faculty, and staff, both on campus and [off campus](#).

See also other Library Guides: [French, German, & Spanish Studies Resource Guide](#) and [Country Resource Guide](#).

Periodical Indexes and Full-text Databases

[Academic Search Complete](#)

The largest "scholarly, multi-disciplinary full-text database" from EBSCO, Academic Search Complete provides full-text for over 7,400 titles, including 6,300 peer-reviewed titles, and indexing and abstracts for over 11,500 journals. Coverage generally goes back to about 1980.

Full-text titles on Latin America and the Caribbean include: *NACLA Report on the Americas*, *Hemisphere: A Magazine of the Americas*, *Mexican Studies*, and *Small Axe: A Caribbean Journal of Criticism*.

[Business Source Complete](#)

EBSCO's business database covers over 8800 titles in management, economics, international business, finance, and accounting with full-text for almost 5000 publications. Scholarly and business periodical backfiles go back to 1975 or further. Full-text titles include Business Monitor International's *Forecast Reports* and *Latin America Monitors* for Andean Group, Southern Cone, Central America, Brazil, Mexico, and the Caribbean and The Economist Intelligence Unit's (EIU) *Country Reports* on Latin American and Caribbean countries.

[Academic OneFile \(Infotrac\)](#)

Academic OneFile from Gale is another general database, covering social sciences, arts, humanities, and science. Approximately 3,000 magazines and journals are indexed as far back as the 1980's, and full-text is provided for over 2,000 titles, generally beginning in the 1990's. Titles include: *Journal of Latin American Studies* and *Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology*.

[LexisNexis Academic](#)

The major database for worldwide general, business, and legal news from the 1980s on. In addition to full-text coverage of U.S. and international English language newspapers, LexisNexis Academic also includes non-English language news sources for Spanish, Portuguese, and other Latin American and Caribbean languages. To find Latin American and Caribbean sources, go to: Sources - Browse Sources - Filter by: Country or Region, e.g., South America or Central America and Caribbean. The "Business" section includes *Country Profiles*.

[JSTOR](#)

JSTOR contains full-text backfiles of over 1000 scholarly journals, many of which date as far back as the 19th century. Coverage generally extends up to, but not including, the most recent three to five years of any given journal. JSTOR has 32 journals specifically relating to Latin American Studies including *Hispania*, *Latin American Literary Review*, and *Latin American Antiquity*. Articles can be limited by language, e.g., Spanish and Portuguese.

[Project Muse](#)

Project Muse provides full-text for over 400 scholarly journals in the humanities and social sciences from over 100 academic or scholarly society publishers. Several titles specifically related to Latin American and Caribbean Studies include *Journal of Latin American Geography*, *Latin American Research Review*, and *Latin American Politics and Society*.

[Columbia International Affairs Online \(CIAO\)](#)

This database from Columbia University includes specific "atlases" with "maps & country information" for Central America and the Caribbean and South America. Data is provided by the

Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU). Besides journal articles, also includes working papers and conference proceedings, policy briefs, and case studies.

Selected Websites

[Latin American Network Information Center \(LANIC\)](#)

<http://www.lanic.utexas.edu/>

Sponsored by the Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies at the University of Texas at Austin, LANIC is the most comprehensive internet-based resource for information on Latin America including the Caribbean and Mexico, and a "best" place to start. LANIC provides thousands of "editorially reviewed" links accessed through an extensive list of subject categories such as government, statistics, business, maps, news, and recreation, or by individual countries. LANIC has its own search engine for keyword searching and is also the WWW Virtual Library: Latin American Studies.

[Internet Resources for Latin America](#)

<http://lib.nmsu.edu/subject/bord/laguia>

IRLA is another major university based internet resource for Latin American studies. Compiled by Molly Molloy, New Mexico State University Library, this guide provides links for news, Latin American web directories, databases, etc. Other resources from Molly include: [Andanzas al web Latino--compendium of Latino/US-Mexico Border Resources](#).

[Latin American Studies Association \(LASA\)](#)

<http://lasa.international.pitt.edu/eng/>

LASA is "the largest professional Association in the world ... engaged in the study of Latin America," including the Caribbean. Its website includes "Sections" on individual countries and topics, e.g., "Culture, Power, and Politics," which may contain links to other relevant sites.

[Yale University Library Selected Internet Resources in Latin American Studies](#)

<http://www.library.yale.edu/latinamerica/internet.html>

This guide from the Yale University Library Latin American Collection provides links to economic and political organizations, history and literature resources, statistical data and online dictionaries.

[Oxford Latin American Economic History \(OxLAD\)](#)

<http://oxlad.qeh.ox.ac.uk/index.php>

This "database" from the Latin American Centre at Oxford University provides statistical series for economic and social data for 1900-2000 that are based on an Inter-American Development Bank project. Includes links to various regional and international websites.

[WWW Virtual Library: International Affairs Resources](#)

<http://www.etown.edu/v1/latamer.html>

The Latin American section of the WWW Virtual Library's International Affairs Resources provides extensive links to search engines and sites by country, region, and topics. See also LANIC, above, for the Virtual Library's Latin American Studies section.

[Political Database of the Americas \(PDBA\)](http://pdba.georgetown.edu/)

<http://pdba.georgetown.edu/>

This website is a "non-governmental project" that provides reference materials, including statistical data, on governments, elections, political parties, "democratic culture," etc. for countries in the Western Hemisphere. It is a joint venture between Georgetown University's Center for Latin American Studies, the Organization of American States, and other institutions.

[Society for Caribbean Studies \(UK\)](http://www.caribbeanstudies.org.uk/)

<http://www.caribbeanstudies.org.uk/>

"The aims of the Society are to encourage education and research about the Caribbean and to provide some opportunity for mutual contact among those concerned with the region and its diasporas." Includes "interesting Caribbean links" to societies and organizations, newspapers, journals, and "arts, culture, and food" websites.

[Library of Congress \(LOC\) Hispanic Reading Room](http://www.loc.gov/rr/hispanic/)

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/hispanic/>

This website provides links to sponsored online materials including the Reading Room's [Selected Links to Resources](#) and [Online Collections](#), and LOC's [Portals to the World: Iberia, the Caribbean, and Latin America](#). LOC's Federal Research Division also has some useful sites: [Country Studies](#) on individual countries and "continents," i.e., "The Americas," as well as the [Handbook of Latin American Studies](#) (HLAS Online).

[U.S. Department of State. Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs.](http://www.state.gov/p/wha/)

<http://www.state.gov/p/wha/>

The Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs is the main U.S. government agency covering North America, South America, and the Caribbean. Links to information for individual countries include its [Country Information](#), the State Department's [Background Notes](#), the CIA's *World Factbook*, and the U.S. Agency for International Development's Latin American and Caribbean sites.

[Organization of American States \(OAS\)](http://www.oas.org)

<http://www.oas.org>

The OAS, headquartered in Washington, D.C., is the major regional agency covering North America, Central America, South America, and the Caribbean. Its site includes links to resources on current issues, the magazine *Americas*, the Columbus Memorial Library with its Americas Digital Library, and the Art Museum of the Americas.

[Association of Caribbean States \(ACS\)](http://www.acs-aec.org/)

<http://www.acs-aec.org/>

This Association was founded in 1994 to promote "consultation and cooperation" among Caribbean countries. Its site includes trade, economic, and social statistics, and links to other related organizations.

[United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean \(ECLAC\)](#)

<http://www.eclac.cl/default.asp?idioma=IN>

ECLAC, one of five UN regional commissions, is headquartered in Santiago, Chile, and was founded to promote the economic and social development of these regions. Its website includes links to other UN, international, and regional organizations. Publications include the annual [Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean](#) (1997+) that contains social and economic indicators and historical statistical tables organized by topics; full-text available from 1999 on, 1997-98 are abstracts only. Sawyer Library has the print 1993 volume: REF HA751. U52.

[Inter-American Development Bank](#)

<http://www.iadb.org>

"The IDB Group is the main source of multilateral financing for economic, social and institutional development in Latin America." This site covers agriculture, economics, and labor statistics as well as country and regional data reports. The Research Department contains links to its own networks and to other "worldwide links" for economics, news, universities, and organizations.

[International Monetary Fund \(IMF\)](#)

<http://www.imf.org>

"The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is an organization of 186 countries, working to foster global monetary cooperation, secure financial stability, facilitate international trade, promote high employment and sustainable economic growth, and reduce poverty around the world." The IMF sites contains several sections: "Country Information;" "Data and Statistics" which includes the *World Economic Outlook*; and the Publications Section which includes *Regional Economic Outlook Reports*.

[World Bank](#)

<http://web.worldbank.org/>

The World Bank provides "financial and technical assistance to developing countries around the world." You can find country information in "Data & Research" or the Latin America & Caribbean section, which can be found through the "Countries" tab, then "Countries & Regions," then "Browse by region." Includes extensive research, news, and publications, e.g., *Economic Growth in Latin America and the Caribbean*, with economic information covering explanations, forecasts, and gross domestic products.

[Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development \(OECD\)](#)

http://www.oecd.org/home/0,3305,en_2649_201185_1_1_1_1_1,00.html/

OECD is a membership organization of countries involved in promoting economic development.

It provides information on non-member as well as member countries (most of Latin America and the Caribbean are not members) and includes comparative statistics. The Sawyer Library has access to its database: [SourceOECD](#), including the annual *Latin American Economic Outlook*.

[Latin American Trade Council of Oregon](#)

<http://www.latco.org>

This non-profit organization provides many "useful sites for international trade with Latin America" in its "Tools of the Trade" section, including online news sources and magazines and business and trade links by country.

[Recursos Noticieros en Español](#)

<http://www.kidon.com/media-link/espanol.shtml>

This extensive site from Kidon Media-link provides connections to news sources in Latin America and the Caribbean in all media and in multiple languages including Spanish, English, Portuguese, Dutch, and French, as well as to Spanish language news sources from around the world.

Selected Electronic Reference Resources

E-Book Collections:

[Gale Virtual Reference Library:](#)

Countries and Their Cultures (also available in Sawyer Library: REF GN307.C68), *Worldmark Encyclopedia of the Nations*, *An Atlas and Survey of Latin American History*, and *Encyclopedia of Latin American History and Culture* .

[Cambridge Histories Online :](#)

Cambridge History of Latin America (11 vols., 1984-2008, also in Sawyer Stacks: F1410.C1834), *Cambridge Economic History of Latin America*, *Cambridge History of Latin American Literature*, *Cambridge Companion to Modern Latin American Culture* , and *Cambridge Companion to the Latin American Novel* .

[Cambridge Companions Complete Collections :](#)

Cambridge Companion to Modern Latin American Culture and *Cambridge Companion to the Latin American Novel*.

[Credo Reference:](#)

Collins Portuguese Dictionary, *Encyclopedia of Latin American and Caribbean Literature, 1900-2003*, *Concise Encyclopedia of Latin American Literature*, *Pop Culture Latin America! Media*,

Arts, and Lifestyle, and Transatlantic Relations Series.

[ABC-CLIO](#) (formerly Greenwood):

Culture and Customs of Latin America and the Caribbean (vendor varies), *Food Culture in South America*, and *Food Culture in the Caribbean*.

[International Business Etiquette. Latin America](#)

NetLibrary 2000

Author Ann Marie Sabath lets you know how to "conduct business abroad with charm and savvy" by discussing "national characteristics" and "intercultural communication." Also available in Sawyer Library: REF HF5389.3.L3 S22.

[Oxford Encyclopedia of Mesoamerican Cultures](#)

Oxford Reference Online 2006

Covers the Indian cultures of Mexico and Central America from around 1200 B.C.E. (Before the Christian Era) through modern times. Includes articles on people, places, and groups as well as an "outline of contents" by categories and lengthy essays on broad topics such as anthropology. Also available in Sawyer Library: REF F1218.6 .O95 2001 3 vols.

Selected Print Reference Resources

[Atlas of Ancient America](#)

REF E61 .C66 1986

A Facts On File publication, this archaeological guide to pre-Columbian civilizations covers Mesoamerica, South America, and North America. Well illustrated with maps and photographs of major sites, it provides an excellent introduction to the "ancient Americas."

[Business Portuguese Glossary](#)

REF PC5333 .B897 1998

This useful "pocket glossary for business people" or travellers includes "Brazilian Portuguese translations."

[Dictionary of Afro-Latin American Civilization](#)

REF F1408.3 .N86 1980

Covers African influences in Latin America and the Caribbean through more than 4500 entries and 14 glossaries and dictionaries.

[Dictionary of Latin American Racial and Ethnic Terminology](#)

REF PC4822 .S84 1989

Contains Spanish American as well as Brazilian Portuguese terms, including "provincialisms."

[Encyclopedia of Latin American Literature](#)

REF PQ7081 .A1 E56 1997

Includes major and minor Latin American and Caribbean authors and their works. Provides biobibliographies of authors and essays on themes as well as "country descriptions." A revised edition: *Concise Encyclopedia of Latin American Literature* is also available online in Credo Reference (see above).

[Encyclopedia of Latin American Politics](#)

REF F1410 .E56 2002

Edited by Diana Kapiszewski and Alexander Kazan of the Center for Latin American Studies, Georgetown University, this title covers Central and South America, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and the Caribbean, mainly in the 19th and 20th centuries. Organized by country it focuses on economic, political, and social history, and includes an historical overview for the whole region.

[Global Etiquette Guide to Mexico and Latin America](#)

REF HF5389 .F673 2002

This guide offers "everything you need to know for business and travel success" about social life and customs in these areas, as well as in Central America and several Caribbean countries.

[Greenwood Encyclopedia of Women's Issues Worldwide. Central and South America](#)

REF HQ1115 .G74 C46 2003

[Greenwood Encyclopedia of Women's Issues Worldwide. North America and the Caribbean.](#)

REF HQ1115 .G74 N67 2003

These 2 volumes are part of a 6-volume set on "contemporary women's issues" throughout the world including inequality, health, gender roles, and violence. Topics are covered in chapters focusing on specific countries.

[Handbook of Mesoamerican Mythology](#)

REF F1219.3 .R38 R42 2000

Compiled by mother and son team Kay Almere Read and Jason J. Gonzalez, this is part of ABC-CLIO's *Handbooks of World Mythology* series. Covers Indian mythology in Mexico and Central America with articles on gods, themes, and concepts in a well-illustrated dictionary format.

[Historical Dictionary of U.S.-Latin American Relations](#)

REF F1418 .F457 2005

An A-Z listing of topics in U.S.-Latin American/Caribbean foreign relations from the early 19th century on. Topics include the role of presidents, politicians, policies, doctrines, wars and other events, with a focus on U.S. policy towards this region. Contains a timeline of important events from 1794-2005.

[International Historical Statistics. Americas 1750-2005](#) 6th ed.

REF DESK HA175 .M55 2007

Covers South America and "North America," which includes Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean, as well as the U.S. and Canada. Provides historical data for "key economic and social indicators," e.g., population, vital statistics, trade, and finance, over long periods of time (mostly from the 19th century on but some as far back as the 18th century), compiled from official government publications. Useful for time series analysis.

[Latin American Literature and Its Times](#)

REF PQ7081 .M625 1999

V.1 in the Gale series *World Literature and Its Times*. Covers 50 major works, mostly from the twentieth century, in fiction, poetry, and nonfiction from Latin America, Brazil, and the United States. Entries show the relationship between history and literature - how history affects literature & how literature reflects history.

[Latin American Political Dictionary](#)

REF F1406 .R67 1980

Compiled by Ernest E. Rossi and Jack C. Plano of Western Michigan University as part of the *Clio Dictionaries in Political Science* series. Although somewhat dated, provides a basic introduction to important concepts in Latin American history. Entries include assessments of the "significance" of various terms while the "Guide to Countries" lists topics relating to specific states.

[Literary Cultures of Latin America: A comparative history](#)

3 vols.

REF PQ7081 .A1 L525 2004

This Oxford University Press set is an extensive and critical scholarly work of over 200 essays that cover Latin American, including Brazilian, literature and its relationship to historical events (pre-Columbian through the 20th century), politics, society, economics, and geography in regions and countries throughout the area. Besides major literary works in all types of media, also discusses lesser known areas of popular culture, politics, indigenous writing, and women authors.

[Random House Latin-American Spanish Dictionary](#)

2nd ed.

REF PC4822 .G65 2000

A dictionary that contains Spanish "words and meanings unique to Central America, South America, and the Caribbean," including regional variations and dialects.

[South America, Central America and the Caribbean](#)

REF F1406.5 .S68 1986+

This title is part of Europa Publications' *Regional Surveys of the World* series and covers 48 countries in these areas. There are three main sections: Part One is the "Background to the Region," which covers important developments in the whole region, Part Two consists of "Country Surveys" of individual countries, including history, economy, and statistics, and Part Three is "Regional Information," including international and regional organizations, data on major commodities, and bibliographies.

[South America Handbook](#)

REF HC165 .S63 2002

A volume in the *Regional Handbooks of Economic Development* series which includes information on economic policies and conditions and factors affecting the economy such as population, labor, and trade. Covers the 12 states of continental South America from the colonial period through 2001, with an emphasis on the period from the mid-20th century on.

[Statistical Abstract of South America \(SALA\)](#)

REF HA935 .S79 v.21, 1981+

This statistical series from the Latin American Center, University of California at Los Angeles, covers social, economic, and political data that is collected from about 250 "reliable" international and national sources. Includes several years' worth of time series analyses and "unique tables."

[Wars of the Americas](#)

REF E18.75 .M374 1998

Written by David Marley, a Canadian historian, this is an illustrated, day by day chronology "of armed conflict in the New World" (South and North America) from 1492 to 1998.