

# Welcome to History Day at UCI Libraries!

UCI Libraries Website: <https://www.lib.uci.edu/>

UCI History Day Guide: <https://guides.lib.uci.edu/historyday>

## Session Schedule

4:00 – 4:10 = Introductions

4:10 – 4:40 = Fantastic Books and Where to Find Them **with Nicole**

4:40 – 4:50 = Transition to Primary Sources

4:50 – 5:15 = Choose your first station

5:15 – 5:20 = Change stations!

5:25 – 5:45 = Choose your second station

5:45 – 5:50 = Wrap Up

## Primary Source Stations

Students will be able to **choose 2** stations during the workshop today. Consider which stations will be most helpful for your research topic.

### **Station 1: Physical Primary Sources from UCI Libraries' Special Collections and Archives**

- Put your detective hats on! Look at physical material from UCI Libraries' Special Collections and Archives and learn how to *interrogate* primary sources to answer your research questions **with Derek**.

### **Station 2: Digital Newspapers and Historical Magazines**

- Be the first on the scene to historical events. Read popular coverage of important modern topics. Collect *evidence* with UCI Libraries' historical newspaper and magazine collections **with Stacy**

### **Station 3: Specialized Digital Primary Sources**

- Looking for unique primary sources? Perhaps a digitized letter, or even a recorded oral history? Explore UCI Libraries specialized digitized primary source collections and learn how to *capture* the information you need to use digital sources in your research projects **with Madelynn**

## Fantastic Books and Where To Find Them

All items in the library are categorized by their "call number."

Some libraries, normally public libraries, use the **Dewey Decimal System** to determine the call number. Most universities, UCI included, use the **Library of Congress Subject Heading System** instead.



How are these two systems different?

One uses **only numbers** (Dewey) and the other uses **numbers and letters** (Library of Congress).

Using numbers and letters gives you more variables than using just numbers, meaning you have a great variety and number of subjects to catalog.

Think of these call numbers (found on the spine of your book) like street addresses.

It tells you where the book "lives" in the library.

All books will "live" around ones that are similar to one another. Books at Langson are organized like so:

<u>Call Number Range</u>	<u>Subjects</u>	<u>Floor plans</u>
A Shelving *	General Works	Basement Compact
B Shelving *	Philosophy, Religion, Psychology	Basement Compact
C	General History	1st floor
D-DS 299	World History	1st floor
DS 300-DX	World History	3rd floor
E	History of the Americas	3rd floor
F	History of the Americas	3rd floor
G	Geography, Anthropology, Recreation	3rd floor
H	Social Sciences	3rd floor
J	Political Science	3rd floor
K	Law	3rd floor
L	Education	3rd floor
M	Music	4th floor
N	Fine Arts	4th floor
P-PS	Literature, Film	4th floor
PT-PZ	Literature	4th floor
T-TP	Technology	4th floor
TR	Photography	4th floor
Z	Bibliography, Library Sciences	4th floor

Search for your book in Library Search.

Make note (or take a picture!) of the call number or write it down in this box:

Call # and Floor:

If it is not A or B yet it is in the basement, it's most likely a bound journal.

If you are still unsure as to whether or not it's a book, look at the citation. A book and a journal will have different looking citations. For more information, Google OWL Purdue.

Now...go find your book! And bring it back for inspection.

If you can't find a book... **THAT'S OK!**

Go with someone who has a call # for one. **Or look at the books we have on the table already!**

Most books will have all of the following parts.

Take a few moments to inspect your book and then decide how the parts match up with the different definitions.

Introduction	When/where it was published
About the author	How often a certain topic/person is mentioned
Title page	The structure and order of the book
Index	What works were cited/used to write book
Table of Contents	Thesis (claim), methods, theories behind research
Bibliography/References	Information on the person who wrote it

If your book is missing or has inadequate parts, that itself can be noted in your analysis.

- Would a scholarly book leave out citations or a bibliography?
- Would a scholarly book have zero information on research methods?
- Would a scholarly book have typos in the introduction?
- Does the index not include KEY issues or people in your topic? What does that mean for overarching scholarship? What does that mean about the author's point of view?

## Finding Primary Sources

**Primary sources** serve as the raw materials historians use to interpret and analyze the past. They are the records of events as they are first described, usually by witnesses or people involved in the event, but they can also include accounts that were recorded later.

<b>My Topic:</b>	
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<b>Time Period:</b>	
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### Types of Primary Sources

Circle **ONE** type of primary source that could help you answer your research question

diaries	memoirs	letters	advertisements
speeches	newspapers	interviews	government documents
photographs	works of art	audio recordings	video recordings
maps	manuscripts	Research data	Ancient artifacts

### Where Might I Find It?

Once you have identified the type of primary source you need, think about where you can find that type of source. Circle **ONE**.

In a Book	In a Newspaper	In a Magazine	In a physical object from Special Collections	In a specialized digital database (like a collection of videos or photographs)
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# How to Analyze Primary Sources

## I. Observe it

Put on your best detective hat. What do you see? (Take note of names, dates, organizations, images, how people are dressed, etc.)

What is it?	
What do you notice that's interesting, unusual, unfamiliar, or even obvious	

## II. Look it up (contextualize)

Now you're a historical research scholar. Place this item in it's time period by looking up the things you observed (Who created it and why? Where and how was this used/created? )

Where and when was it created?	
Who created it and why?  What are some of the other things you discovered looking it up?	

### III. Infer or say something about it

What does it all mean? What is it *telling* you about your research topic you would only know from looking at it?

<b>How does this relate to your research topic?</b>	
<b>What can you say about this primary source to add to the story of your research topic?</b>	

**If you would like to find and analyze your own primary sources. Here are some websites that can help:**

#### Library Search

- [lib.uci.edu](http://lib.uci.edu)
- limit your search to "Special Collections and Archives"

#### Online Archive of California

- [oac.cdlib.org/institutions/UC+Irvine](http://oac.cdlib.org/institutions/UC+Irvine)
- search UCI Special Collections Finding Aids and discover what we have
  - come visit us on the 5th floor of Langson to interact with your chosen primary source

#### Primary Sources Research Guide

- [guides.lib.uci.edu/primary\\_sources](http://guides.lib.uci.edu/primary_sources)

\*\*If you're stuck (or want to visit Special Collections), reach out: [spcoll@uci.edu](mailto:spcoll@uci.edu)

# PRIMARY SOURCE ANALYSIS

## NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES

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### DOCUMENT TYPE

Circle one:



### NAME OF PUBLICATION

e.g. New York Times, etc

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## OBSERVATIONS

What is the date of the article?

Is there an author listed? If so, who?

Who would have read this?

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## TRY TO MAKE SENSE OF IT

What is the main idea of the article?

What was life like at the time this article was written? How do you know? (Does something in the article lead you to believe so?) How would you find out more about that?

Why do you think this article was written? (And what makes you think so?)

# PRIMARY SOURCE ANALYSIS

## IMAGES

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### DOCUMENT TYPE:

e.g. photograph, magazine image, cartoon, poster, art, map, etc.

### ARE THERE WORDS WITH THIS IMAGE?

What do the words tell you?

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## OBSERVATIONS

Who created this image, and when?

What do you see in this image?



people



places



objects



activities

Describe what you see.

What are people doing? What colors do you see? What are the objects being used, or in the background? Etc.

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## TRY TO MAKE SENSE OF IT

What time period does the image show?

What is the main idea of the image, and why do you think so?

Why do you think this image was created? (And what makes you think so?)