

How To Guide:

Using Public Library Research Databases



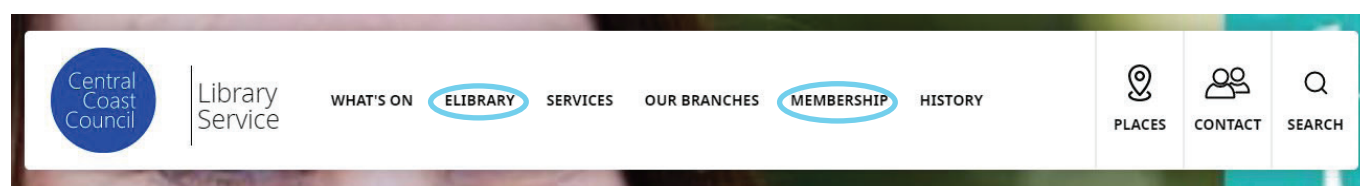
WHAT IS A LIBRARY RESEARCH DATABASE?

A database is a searchable collection of information. For the purposes of library research it is a place where you will find journal articles. Articles found in a research database are considered to hold valuable and respected information.

CENTRAL COAST COUNCIL LIBRARY SERVICES - <https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/>

You will need a membership number to access the research databases. Eventually, you will need to go into one of our local libraries to prove your local address and complete the process but you will be able to access their online resources in the meantime.

To Join: Click on the 'MEMBERSHIP' link in the top menu on the library's web site and follow the prompts



To access their research databases:

- Click on the 'ELIBRARY' link.
- Scroll down until you find the subject you are looking for eg History, Science, Geography...
- Select the link that best describes what you are looking for eg. 'Ancient and Medieval History'
- This will take you into the relevant database.
- You will need your library card number to access the articles and complete your search. You will often be able to narrow your search down with filters such as 'primary sources' or 'images'
- Click on one of the articles. Once there you will be able to download, print or simply read through the article. You will often also be given the citation to use in your bibliography.

Below is an example of an article found using the CCC Library Databases

Ancient and Medieval History

ancient maya

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clothing and footwear in the ancient Americas

Save Print Share Download Citation Read Aloud Save to Drive Highlighting

Because it was made of perishable or delicate materials, such as woven textiles, leather, and feather work, little clothing of the ancient Americas has survived, especially from tropical or wet climates. Archaeologists and art historians have hypothesized about ancient American dress on the basis of evidence from a few burial sites that contained salvageable clothing. Art and artifacts from the era also provide clues. Complicating the issue is that some figures, especially in Mesoamerican art, are depicted nude or in clothing that is represented abstractly and is difficult to interpret.

Excavations in the Valley of Mexico have uncovered remains at the site of Tlatilco, which was settled in about 1300 BCE. Figurines at such burial sites wear clothes that differ by sex. The attire is rendered in a simple manner that makes it challenging to recognize. Anthropologists have speculated that the female sculptures wear a form of grass skirt and that the male sculptures wear loincloths.

Little is known about the Olmec (1500–400 BCE), who occupied the wetlands of the southern Gulf Coast of

Record Information

From: Clothing and Footwear in Ancient History
Series: Themes in Ancient History
By: Julia Marta Clapp
Published: 2020
Record Type: Book Chapter

Table of Contents

Ch. 1: clothing and footwear in the ancient world
Ch. 2: clothing and footwear in ancient Africa
Ch. 3: clothing and footwear in ancient Egypt
Ch. 4: clothing and footwear in ancient Mesopotamia

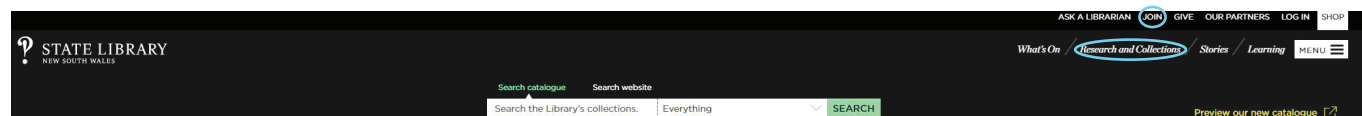
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STATE LIBRARY OF NSW - <https://www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/libraries>

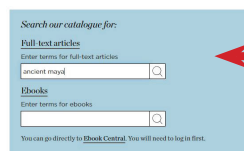
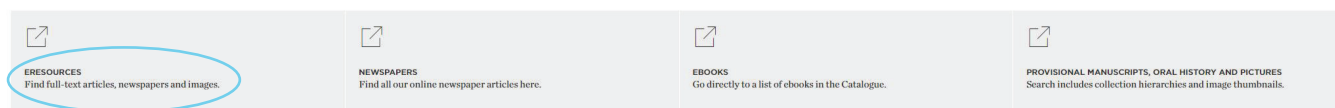
To access their databases you will need to do one of the following:

1. Register your Central Coast Council Library Card (this takes time, you will not have immediate access)
2. Join the State Library of NSW - click on JOIN in the top menu and follow the prompts - make sure you check the box for them to post the card to you, otherwise you have to go to Macquarie St in Sydney to collect your card.



To access their research databases:

- Click on the 'Research and Collections' link.
- Scroll down and click on 'ERESOURCES'



- Find the blue box 'Search our catalogue for', type in your key-words and hit the search button.
- You will have a list of articles with some options to the right of the page. At the very least tick the 'Full Text Online' box. If you want to narrow your search results further, go through the list and make your selections. You can narrow down to specific years, types of articles etc.



By ticking the 'full text online' box you will only get results for entire articles that you can access online. Any articles that you have to go to a public library to access will be removed from your results list.

It takes time and practice to become proficient using research databases. For those of you intending to attend university, you will be using the databases supplied by your university. To build your research skills now will be beneficial in the long run.

Feel free to see Miss Gale in the library if you have any questions.