Finding Background Information

When you begin research for a paper or project, you will usually need background information first. This is especially important if you are not very familiar with the subject you are researching or have not decided which aspect of it you want to emphasize. By consulting the types of sources described in this guide, you can find

- a brief overview of the topic;
- definitions of terms and jargon in the field;
- key names, events, and terms related to the topic that may be used later to find information in the online catalog, periodical databases, or other sources;
- an introductory, select bibliography (i.e., list of suggested sources by scholars or experts in the field).

WHERE TO BEGIN

Because they contain information on almost every subject, encyclopedias are often the best place to begin research when you don’t know much about your topic. Encyclopedias are excellent for providing the background information previously mentioned.

TWO TYPES OF ENCYCLOPEDIAS

While general encyclopedias, such as Encyclopedia Britannica, Encyclopedia Americana, and even Wikipedia, are sometimes logical places to begin research, specialized encyclopedias covering your subject area are usually much more useful and reliable. A subject-specialized encyclopedia may cover your topic in more depth than a general encyclopedia and has been written by authorities on the specific subject.

CHOOSING AN ENCYCLOPEDIA

Determine whether your subject deals with the humanities, the social sciences, or the sciences. Often a subject may fit into more than one of these areas. Abortion, for example, fits into at least three areas—religion, political science, and biology. Ask a librarian if you are not sure how to categorize your subject. When you have decided which areas to look under, turn to the humanities, social sciences, and sciences sections of this guide for suggested specialized encyclopedias or consult the “Find Reference Sources” page on our website. To find other specialized encyclopedias, you can

1. Ask a reference librarian for suggestions.
3. Scan the shelves around one of the listed encyclopedias that you thought would be helpful, but was not. Or, find out what call numbers correspond to your subject and browse in that area of the reference collection.
4. Look in the online catalog under your subject or a broader subject followed by the subdivision "Encyclopedias," for example, "Bioethics—Encyclopedias."

USING AN ENCYCLOPEDIA

For efficient and effective use of encyclopedias, keep in mind the following suggestions:

1. Use the index to the encyclopedia. This may be a separate volume, or it may be at the beginning or end of the encyclopedia. The index will lead you to all the references to your subject. Many times your topic will be included in the encyclopedia as a subdivision of another broader topic, and therefore will not be in its own alphabetical order. For example, "Mafia" may be a subdivision of "Organized Crime."
2. Try several terms for your topic because the term you are using may not be the same one used in the encyclopedia. For example, information about "endangered species" may be under "extinction."
3. Look for bibliographies listing other sources on your topic. Often bibliographies are appended to the end of an encyclopedia article. Other times, references to other sources are included within an encyclopedia article or at the end of an encyclopedia.
4. Follow the cross-reference that will lead you from the article you are reading to other related articles in the same encyclopedia. Related articles may suggest other ideas for defining or focusing your topic.
## Finding Background Information

**BACKGROUND SOURCES AT GREENVILLE COLLEGE LIBRARY**

Listed on the following pages are examples of print subject-specialized encyclopedias arranged by subjects within the humanities, social sciences, and sciences. Their call numbers and brief descriptions are provided. Because the Library has so many (500+) electronic subject-specialized encyclopedias available for research, it isn’t possible to include those in this guide.

### HUMANITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Call No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Ed.</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>700.9 Ar795</td>
<td><em>Arts &amp; Humanities through the Eras.</em></td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>5 vols.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>704 R</td>
<td><em>The Lion Companion to Christian Art.</em></td>
<td>2008</td>
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<tr>
<td>704.948 B81</td>
<td><em>The Oxford Companion to Christian Art and Architecture.</em></td>
<td>1996</td>
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<tr>
<td>709.5 M96</td>
<td>Provides brief descriptions of art and architecture that have been influenced by the Bible and Christianity.</td>
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<tr>
<td>709.2 G17</td>
<td><em>Gardner’s Art Through the Ages.</em></td>
<td>11th ed.</td>
<td>2001</td>
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<tr>
<td>709.2 C76</td>
<td>Traces the history of art throughout the world from the Stone Age to the present.</td>
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<tr>
<td>302.2 In85</td>
<td>Describes the life, work, and artistic development of over 1,300 artists from throughout the world.</td>
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<tr>
<td>302.2</td>
<td>Profiles over 800 twentieth-century artists, most of whom have done their best work after 1960.</td>
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<tr>
<td>302.2</td>
<td>Includes definitions of all aspects of photography from the technical to the historical.</td>
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### ART

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### COMMUNICATION

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<tr>
<td>302.2 In85</td>
<td>Provides articles on communication and information from an interdisciplinary perspective.</td>
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<tr>
<td>302.2</td>
<td>Attempts to explain the breadth of research that defines the study and field of communication with over 1,300 articles written by a variety of scholars from across the discipline and around the world. Vol. 12 is an index.</td>
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Finding Background Information

**R.** Social Networking Communities and E-Dating Services: Concepts and Implications. 2009.
S013

Provides lengthy academic essays on topics related to both social networking and online dating.

**DRAMA/THEATER**

H25a

Emphasizes staged drama rather than literary drama. Includes brief articles on actors, producers, theater buildings, the history of theater in various countries, and terminology.

B64


C14

Covers American theatre from its earliest history to the present including marginalized as well as mainstream topics.

M17

Provides biographical information as well as synopses and critical evaluation of the major works of individual dramatists from antiquity to the twentieth century. Entries on terms, movements, and styles are also included. Articles include bibliographies of editions of plays and critical works. A glossary of terms, play title list, and index complete volume 5.

**LITERATURE**

En19

Provides introductory articles on literary theory organized into three alphabetical sections: Approaches, Scholars, and Terms.

En198

Includes articles on 20th century literary movements, writers, and nationalities of literature.

B56

Surveys the criticism of the works of major black writers throughout the world for the last 200 years.

J62

Includes essays on the key people, movements, and schools of thought associated with literary theory and criticism.

Ox25

Covers children’s authors, characters, genres, and works as well as children’s literature in a variety of countries. Volume 4 includes a select bibliography, a list of awards, and an index.

Ox25

Provides essays describing the topics and writers who have shaped American literature from its beginnings to the present day.
Finding Background Information

R  American Writers: A Collection of Literary Biographies. 1974- . 4 vols. in original set with ongoing supplementary volumes.
Am35
Contains information about the lives, careers, and writings of American writers.

C72
Divided into five broad time periods, essays describe the literary figures, movements, and criticism that shaped the literature of the United States from prehistoric time through the 1980's.

R  Literary History of the United States.
L71a
Volume one contains essays surveying the history of American literature from colonial times up to the 1970s. A bibliography is included at the end of this volume. Volume two consists of bibliographic essays divided into four main sections: “Guide to Resources, “Literature and Culture,” “Movements and influences,” and “Individual authors.”

R  Modern American Literature. 5th ed. 1999.
M72
Brings together excerpts from a variety of critical evaluations of the writings of 20th century American authors.

9896
Covers African-American writers such as Baldwin, Brooks, Du Bois, Hurston, and Wright. A chronology of major historical and literary events is included at the front.

G85
Introduces the reader to American ethnic authors, texts, topics, and traditions ranging from African American to Turkish to Vietnamese American.

R  The Oxford Encyclopedia of British Literature.
Ox25
Provides articles on authors, themes, movements, genres, and institutions covering the history of British literature.

R  British Writers. 1979-. 8 vols. in original set with ongoing supplementary volumes.
B77
Contains information about the lives, careers, and writings of British writers.

R  Encyclopedia of Latin American Literature.
En19
Includes essays relating to Latin-American authors, works, and literary subjects.

L34
Presents articles chronologically on the life, work, and literary contributions of 176 Latin-American writers. Use the index at the end of volume three to locate a specific author.

998
Includes in-depth, scholarly essays arranged into three volumes topically: Vol. 1—“Configurations of Literary Culture,” Vol. 2—Institutional Modes and Cultural Modalities,” Vol. 3—Latin American Literary Culture: Subject to History.”

880
2 vols.
An22
Longer articles covering major ancient writers and literary subjects. Each entry ends with a bibliography. Arranged chronologically with an index at the end of volume 2.

Oxford Companions to Literature.

These companions provide brief articles on authors, critics, literary works, characters, societies, terms, movements, and historical events. Check older editions if newest edition does not provide the information you need. Examples are the Oxford Companion to American Literature (R 810.3 H25b), to English Literature (R 820.3 H26c), to Canadian History and Literature (R 810.3 St76), to Children’s Literature (R 809.8 C22), to French Literature (R 840.3 H26), to German Literature (R 830.3 G18), to the Literature of Wales (R 891.6 OX2), to Women’s Writing in the United States (R. 810.99 OX2), and to African American Literature (R. 810.9 Ox2).
Provide information on authors and their main works. The four volumes are *The Penguin Companion to American Literature* (R 810.9 P37), *to Classical, Oriental, and African Literature* (R 809 P37), *to English Literature* (R 820.9 P37), and *to European Literature* (R 809.894 P37).

**MUSIC**

R.  
1994.  
780.3 K38  
Contains short entries on composers, performers, orchestras, individual works, musical forms and terms, instruments, institutions, writers, and scholars.

R.  
780.3 N42a  
Major source for concise definitions as well as encyclopedic articles on music history, theory, practice, terms, musicians, and works from earliest times to the present. Extensive bibliographies and/or cross-references follow most entries. Complete lists of works for some figures are also presented.

R.  
6 vols.  
780.9 T17  
Scholarly survey of the history of Western music from its beginnings through the end of the millennium. Each volume examines a different period of history: 1) Earliest Notations to the Sixteenth Century, 2) Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries, 3) Nineteenth Century, 4) Early Twentieth Century, 5) Late Twentieth Century. Volume 6 contains a chronology, a bibliography, and a master index to the whole set.

R.  
1995. 6 vols.  
781.64 G94  
Very extensive collection of entries describing pop music performers, producers, styles, songs, shows, etc. In addition to an index, vol. 6 contains a bibliography of works about particular artists and a bibliography by subject.

R.  
781.7 N42  
Provides extensive coverage of the various musical genres from every historical period along with an in-depth treatment of specific composers, performers, instruments, publishers, and dance.

R.  
4 vols.  
782. N42  
Contains a comprehensive collection of entries on all aspects of opera.

R.  
782.13 N42  
Provides act-by-act descriptions of nearly 500 operas. Arranged chronologically by composer.

**PHILOSOPHY**

R.  
*Blackwell Companions to Philosophy* series.  
1991-2010. multiple volumes.  
103 C73  
Presents in-depth articles on philosophers, historical time periods, and types of philosophy in topical volumes.

R.  
103 En19  
Contains articles on philosophical terms and schools as well as individual philosophers. Bibliographies are appended to all articles. Supplement updates topics covered in the original volumes as well as introduces more recent scholarship.

R.  
103 Ox2  
Includes extended entries on the principal areas of philosophy and the great philosophers in addition to short entries on key concepts, theories, philosophers, and other subjects related to philosophy.

R.  
10 vols.  
103 R76  
Provides scholarly essays on philosophers, philosophical theories, and other subjects as they relate to philosophy.

Includes articles on a wide variety of ethical topics from perennial moral problems to ethical theory.


Offers a chronology of the history of ethics followed by a “dictionary” of short entries defining topics and people related to ethics.


Contains articles on ethical and social issues in the life sciences and medicine. Includes lengthy articles and bibliographies on such topics as abortion, racism, environmental ethics, privacy, violence, biomedical science and war, rationing of medical treatment, gene therapy, faith healing, and malpractice.


Examines the field of technoethics as well as a variety of ethical issues related to technology such as cyber identify theft and software piracy in lengthy, academic essays.


Examines a broad range of environmental issues, events, and people from philosophical and ethical perspectives.


Provides a survey of the concepts, theories, themes, and controversies related to Western philosophy.


Introduces the issues, arguments, people, concepts, and other topics associated with the philosophy of religion.


Includes scholarly articles on topics in five broad subject areas related to the philosophy of science.

RELIGION


Covers African America religious leaders, groups, and issues related to the development of African American religious life.


Comprehensive and ecumenical reference work covering all aspects of religion from ancient and living religions, to religious beliefs, practices, symbols, and themes. Provides bibliographical and/or cross-references with most essays.


Covers a miscellany of religious topics from Hindu rites for women to relationships between architecture and religion.


Includes articles tracing women’s history and experience with world religions from the beginning of time through the twentieth century.


Examines popular religious culture at the end of the twentieth century.


Identifies and explains all proper names and significant terms and subjects in the Bible, including the Apocrypha. Entries are written by scholars and include bibliographies.


Covers topics, places, and people in the Bible as well as theological concepts.
Finding Background Information


Presents the full texts and critical notes for both the New Revised Standard Version and New International Version of the Bible as well as general and passage-specific commentary.


Examines this field of Christian doctrine through lengthy essays written by scholars in the field.


Contains short articles on topics of the early Church ranging from archaeology to philosophy and linguistics to geography. The lists of abbreviations at the front aid in interpretation of the entries.


Covers a wide array of events, people, and ideas of the sixteenth century. Not confined to the “Protestant Reformation.” A “Synoptic Outline of Contents” is included in volume 4.


Provides descriptions of over 1,700 religious groups and essays on the development of religion in the United States and Canada.


Examines various traditions, movements, and influences related to North American religious practice. Essays are grouped into chapters by subject.


Covers all aspects of Jewish life and thought. Supplementary information included at the end of volume 16. Bibliography provided with each entry. Charts, diagrams, chronologies, tables, and index are in volume one.


Includes longer articles on various aspects of Judaism. A general index and an index to Biblical texts conclude the third volume.


Describes Islamic history, faith, culture, and peoples in topically-arranged articles. A useful glossary of terms is included near the back of the volume.


Provides over 500 articles related to the Islamic world and its history.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

GENERAL

R. The Social Science Encyclopedia. 2nd ed. 1996. 300.3 So13

Contains articles on the central disciplines of the social sciences as well as theories, historical figures, methods, and schools of thought.


Provides background information on topics in anthropology, economics, history, law, political science, psychology, sociology, statistics, and related fields.

BUSINESS

R. Kiss, Bow, or Shake Hands: The Bestselling Guide to Doing Business in More Than 60 Countries. 2nd ed. 2006. 395.52 M83

Provides overviews of recommended business etiquette across cultures.


Provides explanations of the global concepts, issues, and terms associated with both current and classical business.
ECONOMICS/MANAGEMENT

En19 Good source of information on such topics as advertising, consumer theory, inflation, monetary policy, social security programs, and the world bank. Name and subject indexes provided.

En19 Offers scholarly introductions to management terms and topics.

658.03
En19a Entries cover management functions, business activities, and environmental resources and constraints. Excellent bibliographies and index provided. See also Encyclopedia of Professional Management (R 658.03 En19).

EDUCATION

370.3
En194 Articles cover topics related to learning and instruction for all levels of education. Educational history, theory, research, and philosophy, as well as people, associations, and institutions are included.

R Encyclopedia of Educational Research.
370.3
This standard source presents a critical synthesis of research on educational problems and practices as well as experimental studies. Extensive bibliographies are included with each article.

HISTORY

R Larousse Dictionary of World History.
903
L328 1994.
Contains short entries describing the key figures, groups, and events that shaped world history.

909.07
D56 13 vols.
Contains approximately 5,000 articles describing people, places, and events from about A.D. 500 to 1500. Covers Western Europe, the Scandinavian north, the Byzantine and Slavic east, the Muslim south, and the world of Judaism.

R The Oxford Encyclopedia of Ancient Egypt.
932
Ox25 2001. 3 vols.

R Ancient Europe 8000 B.C.-A.D. 1000:
936
An22 2 vols.

939.4
C49 Divided into eleven parts by broad subjects. Focuses on civilizations of the Mediterranean world from the Bronze Age (3200 B.C.E.) to the Hellenistic era (325 B.C.E.).

R Encyclopedia of European Social History from 1350 to 2000. 2001. 6 vols.
940.03
En19 Includes articles arranged into topical sections. Volume one contains a chronology and volume six provides biographies and an index.

940.2
En19 Presents scholarly articles describing the “cultural movement” and historical period known as the Renaissance. The time period covered begins with mid-14th century Italy and ends throughout Europe in the 17th century.

940.25
En19 For the purposes of this work, Enlightenment has been defined as “a set of tendencies and developments of European culture from the 1670s to the early nineteenth century (including in the American outposts of that culture).” Includes articles covering topics and people related to this culture.
R. Encyclopedia of Eastern Europe: From the Congress of Vienna to the Fall of Communism. 2000.

Provides longer articles on the seven countries included in the geographic scope of this book (Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Yugoslavia) as well as short entries on other aspects of life in this area.


In defining Asia, the editors have included Iran and Central Asia, South Asia, and East Asia, but not the majority of the Middle East (Syria, Israel, Iraq, and Turkey) or the Soviet Union. Covers all aspects of Asian civilization from early history through the 1980's.


Focuses on the thirty-three nations that range from Japan in the east to Turkey in the west and from Kazakhstan in the north to Indonesia in the south. Each volume includes an introductory essay on the historical geography of the areas covered, several maps, and a “Reader’s Guide.”


Covers the history, politics, religion, economics, literature, and arts of the Middle East since 1800.


Explores the history of change in Africa during the last century in short to medium-length entries.


Includes hundreds of articles arranged alphabetically including some “composite” entries of articles on one subject clustered together. In addition to an index, the final volume contains an appendix on research about Africa by non-Africans, a chronology, and a list of ethnic names.


Contains longer topical and thematic essays arranged into broad categories such as “Government and Law” and “Religion.” Volume one begins with a chronology.


Includes entries relating to Canadian history and culture on such diverse topics as the provinces, cultural and political figures, ice hockey, and birch bark biting. Some entries include reading lists and cross-references. Vol. 3 contains an index for subjects not in the three-volume alphabetical list.


Presents essays on the culture and history of peoples in the southern two thirds of Mexico as well as Guatemala, Belize, El Salvador, and parts of Honduras, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica.


Provides essays on the key topics and figures throughout American history that affected our intellectual development. Covers subjects as diverse as “abortion,” “feminist jurisprudence,” “privacy,” and “virtue.”


Provides articles on events, places, groups, and ideas related to American History. Does not include biographical entries. Volume 9 includes archival maps and primary documents.


Includes essays on the major issues that have dominated historical writing for the last generation such as periods of social change, ethnic and racial subcultures, popular culture, and work and labor.


Provides essays on the people, events, eras, legal cases, places, and areas of cultural achievement in African American history from 1619 to 1895. Includes a “Chronology of
African American History, 1619-1895” and a “Topical Outline of Articles” in volume 5.


Following the set above, focuses on the events, people, eras, legal cases, places, and areas of cultural achievement in African American history since the end of the nineteenth century. A “Thematic Outline of Entries” and a “Chronology of African American History, 1896 to the Present” are included in volume 5.


Alphabetically covers the key issues and events of the nineteenth century. Includes a chronology of events in volume one.


Provides articles on the history and life of peoples in Latin American countries. Long articles on specific countries are included. A list of “Biographies by Category” is included in volume 5.

**POLITICAL SCIENCE/LAW**


Offers essays describing all aspects of Congress from its history and responsibilities to its unique culture. A “Glossary of Legislative Terms” and a copy of the U.S. Constitution are included in the last volume.


Includes articles on law enforcement topics ranging from descriptions of specific agencies to contemporary theories of police work.


Covers various topics relating to criminal behavior and society’s responses to it.

**PSYCHOLOGY**


Focuses on the field of positive psychology, “the pursuit of optimal human functioning.”


Includes long articles on topics associated with the study of human behavior. “Glossaries” at the beginning of each article define key terms related to the topic.


Comprehensive and scholarly encyclopedia covering all aspects of psychology. Articles include useful bibliographies. Volume eight includes a synoptic outline of the contents.


This encyclopedia covers topics and persons related to the many branches of psychology. Author and title references follow major articles. Indexes and a bibliography of books and articles cited throughout the set are listed in volume 4.


In addition to some biographical entries, contains articles on specific emotions and concepts, themes, and theoretical issues related to emotions.


Provides detailed and scholarly essays. Each volume focuses on a different aspect of child development and psychology: 1) Theoretical Models of Human Development, 2) Cognition,
H19
Divides scholarly essays in the field of adolescent psychology into two topical volumes: 1) Individual Bases of Adolescent Development, and 2) Contextual Influences on Adolescent Development.

En19
Indexes terms, concepts, and issues related to using culture to understand differences among individuals.

H19
Arranged topically, covers the field of social psychology with detailed essays written by the top scholars in the field.

**SOCIOMETRY**

301
En19a
Includes essays on a variety of sociological topics with lists of "References" at the ends of articles and an index in volume five.

303.6
V81
Thirty longer essays, such as the introductory "Overview of Violence in the United States," are complimented by more than 595 entries describing aspects of violence in America.

305.8
En19
Offers essays on racial and ethnic groups, issues of inequality, and other racial and ethnic topics that impact society broadly.

305.892
An87
Discusses terms, events, people, and ideas related to the history of anti-Jewish antagonism throughout the world.

En19
Lists and describes more than 1,500 world cultures. Volume 10 includes indexes by country, culture, and subject.

M22
Contains articles on the history and impact of human bondage throughout the world from early times through the late 20th century.

306.
803
In85
Provides essays and substantial bibliographies on a variety of topics related to marriage and family life.

323
C49
Following an essay on the Bill of Rights, alphabetical entries explain ways the United States has struggled with civil rights issues throughout its history.

326
P72c
Articles cover the history and culture of African-Americans. A select bibliography and index are provided at the end of the volume. Use the detailed table of contents also.

339.46
P86
Begins with five essays describing the history of poverty in the U. S. These are followed by an alphabetical listing of articles related to various aspects of poverty.

361
C73
Presents scholarly essays organized topically by volume. Organized with a separate table of contents and index for each volume.
12 Finding Background Information

En19
Contains information on the details and effects of many types of addictions. Volume 4 includes an index and several appendices.

En19
Provides articles on countries and topics related to poverty throughout the world.

SPORTS

En19
Includes articles on the history of sport as well as the scientific and physiological principles governing motion and performance.

N42
Each volume focuses on a different sport or type of sport (e.g. football, golf, winter sports, water sports).

H19
Examines the field of sport psychology through in-depth, scholarly essays arranged topically.

En19
Following the first two chapters which survey sports from 1607-1860 and 1861-1889, essay-length chapters chronicle the history of sports in America decade by decade.

SCIENCES

GENERAL

En197
Brings together many aspects of the emerging relationships between ethics and the scientific and technological worlds.

M17
Provides basic factual information in the physical, natural, and applied sciences.

V33
2002 Contains short introductions to topics across the broad range of the sciences.

BIOLOGY/MEDICINE

R. Concise Encyclopedia Biology. 1996.
C74
Provides over 7,000 entries in the areas of biochemistry, botany, ecology, genetics, molecular biology, paleontology, physiology, and zoology.

C14
Surveys the current state of knowledge in biology. Articles, for example, cover the cell, genetics, ecology, marine environmentalists, the evolutionary process, and paleontology. Species and subject indexes provided.

En19
Includes longer articles on areas of environmental interest for students, professionals, and the general public as well as environmental issues of interest to lawyers.

K58
Contains definitions for nearly 7,000 terms related to the rapidly changing field of genetics.

En19
Opens with several overview essays; then scholarly articles follow alphabetically covering a wide range of topics related to evolution.

B56
Classic medical dictionary with more than 5,000 medical definitions and descriptions.

Ox2a Covers standard medical definitions but also includes biographies of prominent medical personages and other related topics such as “Environment and medicine” and “Ethical issues in modern health care.”

G79b Provides a detailed description of the human anatomy with many illustrations. Organized into sections by different body system and function.

EN19 Provides scholarly essays on human biology ranging from public health to genetics and cell biology.

M53 Includes over 10,000 brief descriptions of chemical substances and small groups of closely related compounds.

H24 Presents a comprehensive view of the different facets of the diagnosis and treatment of diseases and disorders. Arranged by subject into chapters with an index at the end of the second volume.

En19 Provides technical articles on a wide variety of subjects related to environmental science and engineering.

CHEMISTRY

C74 Offers approximately 12,000 entries on topics related to general, organic, inorganic, physical, and technical chemistry.

V33 Concise but detailed classic reference source on general chemistry.

C85 2007 Covers a broad range of topics of interest to physical scientists. Includes many tables and diagrams.

D34 Contains factual information related to all aspects of chemistry. Consult the Contents page at the front of the book or the Index at the back.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

004.03 En19 For more up to date information, consult the 4th ed. online. This print 3rd edition provides a broad “snapshot” of the computer science world as of 1993. Organized into chapters by topics. A detailed index as well as several useful appendices appear at the back.

EARTH SCIENCES

333.79 N35 Gives an overview of the history and status of the primary sources of energy in the world today.

550.3 M11 Contains over 350 basic articles on the earth sciences. Includes illustrations.

PHYSICS

530.3
14 Finding Background Information

R72 Includes short definitions with eleven longer essays scattered throughout the work to provide an overview of the world of physics.

C85 2007 Covers a broad range of topics of interest to physical scientists. Includes many tables and diagrams.

Remember, the background sources listed above are only a few examples. Many more sources are available in print in the Reference Area of the Library and electronically on the Library website at http://www.greenville.edu/campus_resources/library/reference.dot.

If you need assistance in finding other background information sources, remember you can always

CONSULT A REFERENCE LIBRARIAN!