Library Session: POL 3340  
Rise & Fall of Communism in the USSR & Eastern Europe

Welcome!

- Instruction & Collections
- Research Help – Email/Chat
- Individual or small group consultations

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Today's Agenda

- Researching a Specific Country: credible & authoritative
  - Finding Country Information
  - News and newspapers sources
- Wrap-Up/Questions
Credible & Authoritative

- Authority: can it be verified?
  - Peer reviewed?
  - Anyone can write to the web
- Credibility
  - Trust & expertise

http://mynativebelarus.blogspot.ca/

Authoritative Country Information Sources

- Almanacs, Handbooks, Encyclopaedias and other Reference Sources: Search the catalogue by title.
- Print Resources in the Library:
  - Encyclopaedia of Russian History
  - The Newly Independent States of Eurasia: Handbook of Former Soviet Republics
  - The rise and fall of the Soviet Union, 1917-1991

Country Information Sources

- Online Resources: Search the catalogue by title
  - A Dictionary of Political Biography
  - The Oxford Companion to the Politics of the World
  - The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Politics
  - Europa World Plus
  - World Factbook
  - BBC News – Country Profiles
  - Country Report – Economist Intelligence Unit: EIU
  - Country Profile – Economist Intelligence Unit: EIU

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Quick Exercise

- With the person next to you...
- Choose either Europa World Plus OR World Factbook and:
  - Look up a country
  - Note the type of information you see
  - Do you like the resource? Why/Why not?
  - What is this source good for? Not good for?

News and Newspapers

- Factiva
- LexisNexis Academic
- BBC Monitoring
- PressReader or PressDisplay

Factiva

- Search in Databases by Title
- Dow Jones company
- 14,000 sources (newspapers, journals, magazines, news and radio transcripts...)

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LexisNexis Academic

- Search in Databases by Title
- Over 6000 news, business and legal sources
- Back files and latest news stories

BBC Monitoring Service

- Search in Catalogue by Title (or within Factiva/LN)
- A division of the BBC
- Current affairs
- Radio, television, press, news agencies & the Internet (government sites)
- Translations from over 70 languages

Press Display/PressReader

- 200 newspapers from more than 55 countries
- Original format, layout & language
- Select publications by country
- Holds up to 2 months
- Limited # of seats
News Sources Summary

- Factiva, LexisNexis Academic, BBC Monitoring
- Use the limiters!
  - Date
  - Region
  - Language
  - Headline searches

More Practice Time

- Take 10 minutes to search for news on any topic for your country
- Ask questions if you have them!!

Research Overview

- How and where to start?
  - What is your research question?
  - What terms will you search?
  - Move from broad to narrow sources
  - Revise your question if necessary.
Example Research Question:

- I’m looking for information on the origin of communism in Poland?
- What are the key concepts?
  - Origin
  - Communism
  - Poland

What terms will you search?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Origin</th>
<th>Communism</th>
<th>Poland</th>
<th>Other?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beginning</td>
<td>Communists</td>
<td>Eastern Europe</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>Commun*</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Origin AND Communism AND Poland
- (Origin OR History) AND (Communism OR Communists) AND Poland

Where to search for Books and Articles?

- Books – Summon, The Catalogue
- Articles – Summon, Subject Databases
- Program Guide for Political Science – International
- Course Guide for POL 3340
Databases
- ProQuest Search – Political Science and Public Administration
- CIAO – Columbia International Affairs Online
- International Political Science Abstracts
- JSTOR
- American Bibliography of Slavic and Eastern European Studies (ABSEES)
- Historical Abstracts

In ProQuest OR ABSEES...
- I’m looking for information on the transition to democracy in post communist countries?
- Scholarly Articles
- Peer Reviewed
- Published in the last 10 years
- Can you get 20-70 results?

Questions?
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