

VISUAL COMMUNICATIONS RESEARCH GUIDE

PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to outline the available resources that Library Services provides to support students in the Visual Communications program at Medicine Hat College. Please contact the library for further assistance.

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ARTICLES

You can locate journal, magazine, and newspaper articles using databases. These resources cannot commonly be accessed using standard search engines such as Bing, Google, Yahoo, etc.

Databases can be located at: <http://www.mhc.ab.ca/Library/Resources/Databases.aspx>

Databases that you can employ specifically for your program include:

- [Art Full Text](#)
Art Full Text is a peer-reviewed fine arts database that covers such topics as: advertising art, art history, computers in art, crafts, decorative arts, fashion design, folk art, graphic arts, industrial design, interior design, painting, photography, pottery, sculpture, etc.
- [ARTstor](#)
ARTstor is a digital library of more than one million images in the arts, architecture, humanities, and social sciences with a suite of software tools to view, present, and manage images.
- [Academic Search Complete](#)
Academic Search Complete is a comprehensive scholarly, multi-disciplinary full-text database, with more than 7,900 full-text periodicals, including more than 6,800 peer-reviewed journals. Other databases listed under the "[General/Multidisciplinary](#)" heading of the main databases page might be applicable.

For an overview and search tips, go to:

http://www.mhc.ab.ca/Library/Resources/~media/Files/library_documents/how_to_guides/general_research_guides/database_tips.pdf

BOOKS & AUDIOVISUALS

Search the library catalogue (<http://darius.uleth.ca/search~S2>) to find books and audiovisual resources on your topic.

Browse the library catalogue or shelves using these associated terms and call number ranges respectively:

- N [Visual arts](#) (Theory and Philosophy, Art museums and exhibitions, History, Artists, Art as a profession)
- NA [Architecture](#)
- NB [Sculpture](#)
- NC [Drawing, Design, Illustration](#)
- ND [Painting](#)
- NE [Print media](#) (Printmaking and engraving, Wood engraving, Metal engraving...)
- NK [Decorative Arts](#)
- NX [Arts in general](#)
- TR [Photography](#)
- Z242-264 [Practical Printing \(Typography\)](#)

WEBSITES

Art History Resources on the Web (<http://witcombe.sbc.edu/ARTHLinks.html>)

- Links to sites featuring many different periods and styles of art.

Art on the Net (<http://www.art.net/>)

- Artists share their work on the web

Alberta Foundation for the Arts (<http://www.affta.ab.ca/grants.aspx>)

Canada Council for the Arts Grant Programs (<http://www.canadacouncil.ca/grants/default.asp>)

Artcyclopedia: the Fine Art Search Engine (<http://www.artcyclopedia.com>)

- “Our mission is to become the definitive and most effective guide to museum-quality fine art on the Internet”

VADS (Visual Arts Data Service) (<http://vads.ahds.ac.uk/>)

- Visual arts database providing “collections of visual arts digital resources and advice for their creation and use”

Esplanade Arts & Heritage Centre (<http://www.esplanade.ca/museum/museum.html>)

- Medicine Hat museum, art gallery, and archives

OTHER HOW-TO GUIDES

Library Services produces a number of how-to guides to assist you with academic writing (APA and MLA styles), Microsoft Office, research and technology guides, as well as class specific handouts.

Other how-to guides can be located at: http://www.mhc.ab.ca/Library/Get_Assistance/How-To_Guides.aspx

CONTACT LIBRARY SERVICES

Library Services offers many points of assistance:

- In person (Information Desk)
- Telephone: 403.504.3544; Toll free: 1.866.282.8394 (ext. 3544)
- E-mail (http://www.mhc.ab.ca/Library/Get_Assistance/Email.aspx)
- Instant Messenger (*Library Online Agents*; http://www.mhc.ab.ca/Library/Get_Assistance/IM.aspx)
- Text Messaging: 403.866.5872