



Research Guide - Gender Studies

[Books](#) | [Articles](#) | [History / Biography](#) | [Work / Health](#) | [Statistics](#) | [Feminism / Advocacy](#)

Special Notice: Additions to this Section for Women's History Month

In commemoration of Women's History Month, the students in Dr. Sandra Pacheco's Service Learning 200L class selected topics pertaining to the History of Homeless Women, the History of Prostitution, and the History of Women in the Sciences. These selections will remain together as a group in the History/biography Section of this Guide until Women's History Month is over, and then will be absorbed into the appropriate portions of this Guide.

Many thanks to all members of the SL 200L class for their careful research and useful contributions to the Gender Studies Guide.

[Why are People Homeless?](#)

This website explains why homelessness has risen over the past twenty to twenty-five years. The National Coalition for the Homeless explains that the factors include poverty, eroding work opportunities, a shortage of inexpensive rental housing and a decline in public assistance. Provides statistics on these reasons for homelessness.

[Homeless Link](#)

The website talks about the issues concerning women and homelessness. Talks about family homelessness, single homeless women, hidden homelessness, sexual violence and domestic violence, mental illness, and sex workers. Contains links to prevention, support and education.

[Homelessness in female-headed families: childhood and adult risk and protective factors](#)

Article is based on a case control study of homeless low-income, never homeless families, and all female headed families. Results show childhood and adult predictors of homelessness, such as drug problems and foster care placement in childhood. Provides the conclusion that a greater risk of losing a home is due to factors that compromise one's economic and social resources. Includes reference list.

[Medical News Today](#)

This source reports mortality rates and causes of death of women who used homeless shelters in Toronto. It also compares the results with those of other published studies of homeless women and with data for women in general population.

[No Safe Place: Sexual Assault in the Lives of Homeless Women](#)

This article first defines homelessness, then discusses the prevalence of sexual assault, which is greatly increased because of homelessness and other causes. The consequences of sexual assault among homeless women, is

also discussed. The article then discusses barriers to accessing institutional support and suggests ways to assist sexually abused homeless women. Lisa Goodman, Katya Fels, and Catherine Glenn, from the National Online Resource Center on Violence Against Women.

Prostitution

[Prostitution: Then and Now](#)

Student-written history of prostitution from the Victorian era to the present, noting reasons for becoming prostitutes and societal attitudes. Contains bibliography University of Texas, Austin.

[History of Prostitution](#)

This site comes from ProCon.org, a not-for-profit organization providing unbiased information on a variety of topics. This is a timeline of prostitutes' rights, country by country, from 2400 BCE to present day, giving concise accounts of prostitution throughout history, citing laws and advocacy for reform of public attitude toward sex workers.

[Sex Workers - Wikipedia](#)

This non-scholarly web page is a good starting place for gathering information about the topic of sex workers. The page defines and gives the evolution of the term sex worker. The site also discusses various advocacy and legality issues. Contains scholarly references to other resources.

[Sex Workers Union](#)

The International Union of Sex Workers is a sex workers union in the United Kingdom. The website has information about laws protecting sex workers, entering and working in the sex industry, free English lessons for sex workers, and includes current events and other news within this industry. It also has information about their publication *Respect!*

Women in the Sciences

[Women in Science](#)

This website "documents the career experiences of women in science and engineering in recent memory. Our online survey allows women to tell about their careers in their own words, recording the experiences of women scientists and engineers permanently." Introduction. Search by categories including Black Women in Mathematics, Biographies of Women Mathematicians, and Contributions of 20th Century women to Physics. From George Mason University.

[The History of Women in Astronomy](#)

Historical astronomers listed chronologically; contemporary astronomers listed alphabetically by name. Site is sponsored by the Committee on the Status of Women in Astronomy for the American Astronomical society.

[4000 Years of Women in Science](#)

Website has an essay about women in science from 4000 years ago up to the 20th century. This site has biographies listed by name, as well as useful and extensive reference list. Some fun features include a "women in science" quiz. Sponsored by the University of Alabama.

[Women in Science: A Selection of 16 Significant Contributors](#)

"The women scientists profiled here span several centuries and several nationalities. Despite many barriers, women all over the world have participated in unraveling the secrets of nature since the dawn of civilization. As

historian of science Naomi Oreskes said recently, 'The question is not why there haven't been more women in science; the question is rather why we have not heard more about them.'" - Introduction. From UC San Diego's San Diego Supercomputer Cent

Handbook of American Women's History CSUMB Library Ref HQ1410. H36

Alphabetical entries provide "introductory and fundamental information necessary for a general understanding of women's history." - Introduction

American Women's History: A Research Guide

<http://frank.mtsu.edu/~kmiddlet/history/women.html>

"Provides citations to print and Internet reference sources, as well as to selected large primary source collections. The guide also provides information about the tools researchers can use to find additional books, articles, dissertations, and primary sources." - Introduction

U.S. Historical Census Browser

<http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/census/>

User can examine state and county topics for individual census years or over the time from 1790 to 1960. Search topics for browsing include General Population; Education & Literacy; Economy, Manufacture & Employment; Agriculture; Ethnicity, Race, Place of Birth; and Slavery Population. From the University of Virginia Library.

Women and Social Movements in the United States 1600-2000

<http://womhist.alexanderstreet.com>

A quarterly online journal that seeks to make women's history accessible to teachers and students at universities, colleges, and high schools. Authors/editors are Thomas Dublin, Kathryn Kish Sklar, and Kate Babbitt, State University of New York at Binghamton; hosted by Alexander Street Press.

Women Pioneers in American Memory

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/ndlpedu/features/women/women.html>

Several American Memory pictorial (pamphlets, maps, prints) and audio collections sponsored by the Library of Congress. Covering women leaders of the suffrage movement, during the struggle for equal rights, and in the workplace.

Early Modern Women Database

<http://www.lib.umd.edu/ETC/LOCAL/emw/emw.php3>

The Early Modern Women Database provides links to online resources about women in early modern Europe and the Americas. It focuses on the period from ca. 1500 to ca. 1800 and includes links to websites about the medieval period and 19th century as well. "Resources have been selected for their scholarly value by librarians of the University of Maryland Libraries. Materials range from bibliographic databases to full-text resources, images, and sound recordings. Most of the resources linked here are free. Some require a license for access." - About the database

Feminae: Medieval Women and Gender Index

<http://www.haverford.edu/library/reference/mschaus/mfi/mfi.html>

Covers journal articles, book reviews, and essays in books about women, sexuality, and gender during the Middle Ages: "The time period covered is 450 C.E. to 1500 C.E. with Russia extending to 1613, the beginning of the Romanov dynasty. The geographic area is Europe, North Africa, and the Middle East as well as areas in which Europeans travelled." Searchable by subject, title or author. An extensive subject list is provided for subject searching.

Monastic Matrix: A Scholarly Resource for the Study of Women's Religious Communities from 400-1600 CE

<http://monasticmatrix.org/>

Primary and secondary sources contain profiles of Christian women's religious communities of every size, affiliation, and rule; biographies of women in communities; and images of art objects, architecture, archaeological remains, site-plans, and maps. Browse by region, name, community, and time period; search the profiles. Lisa

Bitel and Katherine Gill, editors; hosted by the University of Southern California.

Diotima: Materials for the Study of Women and Gender in the Ancient World

<http://www.stoa.org/diotima/>

"Diotima serves as an interdisciplinary resource for anyone interested in patterns of gender around the ancient Mediterranean and as a forum for collaboration among instructors who teach courses about women and gender in the ancient world." This site includes course materials, a bibliography, and links to many on-line resources, including articles, book reviews, databases, and images. Authored by Ross Scaife and Suzanne Bonefas; hosted by the University of Kentucky.

Encyclopedia of Women in the Ancient World CSUMB Library Ref HQ1127 .S25

Biographical entries, arranged alphabetically and listed by category, explore the lives of women from the dawn of history. Included also are genealogical charts and maps.

Women and Gender in Ancient Egypt from Prehistory to Late Antiquity

<http://www.umich.edu/%7Ekelseydb/Exhibits/WomenandGender/title.html>

"Website for the exhibition of the same name at the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology in 1997. Exhibition uses Egyptian artifacts from the collection of the Kelsey Museum and the papyrology collection of the University of Michigan Library to examine the roles and lives of women in ancient Egyptian society, and how these fit into the larger patterns of gender definitions and relations." Hosted by the University of Michigan.

Women in World History A Biographical Encyclopedia CSUMB Library Ref HQ1115.W6

This 16-volume encyclopedia describes the lives of famous or significantly important women from every era.

WSSLinks - Women's History

<http://osulibrary.oregonstate.edu/research/srg/history.html>

Annotated set of links to various comprehensive sources of U.S. and global women's history. From the Women's Studies Section of the Association of College & Research Libraries.

Notable American Women: A Biographical Dictionary CSUMB Library Ref CT3260 .N57

Biographies of women arranged chronologically from 1607 to the Modern Period written by experts in her field.

A to Z of Native American Women CSUMB Library Ref E98.W8 S65

Biographies encompass the years circa 1595 to the twentieth century. The introduction is notable for its explanation of the challenges associated with collecting biographical data about early Indian women. Lives of Native American women before the twentieth century were told through primary source documents like autobiographies, anthropologists' interviews, art collectors' memoirs, or within the oral traditions of tribal communities.

Notable Black American Women: Book II CSUMB Library Ref E185.96 .N68

Biographies of African American women, "who are diverse by geography, history, and profession."-Introduction. Arranged alphabetically by surname.

Notable Twentieth-Century Latin-American Women: A Biographical Dictionary CSUMB Library Ref CT3290.N68

Biographies of Latinas "conjoined by their struggle against discrimination." Biographical portraits of women in many professions from Hollywood actresses to political activists. -Preface

Past Notable Women of Computing and Mathematics

<http://www.cs.yale.edu/homes/tap/past-women.html>

Provides access to biographies and images of pioneers in the fields of mathematics and computing. Hosted by the Computer Science Department, Yale University.

4000 Years of Women in Science

<http://crux.astr.ua.edu/4000WS/4000WS.html>

Brief biographies organized by century of birth, field of scientific study, or in alphabetical order. Hosted by the Department of Physics & astrology, University of Alabama.

Gifts of Speech: Women's Speeches from Around the World

<http://gos.sbc.edu/>

Full text of speeches made by influential women, including many contemporary activists, artists, writers, and educators. The web site is searchable by topic, speaker's name, and year of speech.

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