




Resources to Support Argumentation and Debate: In Print and Online

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"The sign of a first-rate intelligence is the ability to hold two opposing ideas in the mind at the same time and still retain the ability to function."

~ F. Scott Fitzgerald.

The Shasta College Library offers a variety of materials to assist you with your research, including books, e-books, periodicals, videos, and more. The resources below are just a sample of what is available to you through your library, both in print and online.

Reference Books

The reference section is an excellent place to begin a search for.... Although reference books cannot be taken out of the library, they are often the best resources to use for an introduction to a topic. Please feel free to browse these books in the library or make photocopies as necessary. Below you will find a sample of what is available to you in the reference section:

- Carter, Susan, et. al. (2006). *Historical Statistics of the United States*. Cambridge University Press. [REF HA202 .H57 2006]
- World Almanac Books (2008). *World Almanac and Book of Facts*. [READY REF AY 67 .N5 .W7 2008]

General Collection

There are also some excellent resources available to you in the general collection. Searchable through the library catalog, these books and periodicals can be checked out for up to two weeks at a time. Since there are many different emphases in

Books

- The *Opposing Viewpoints* series, published by Greenhaven Press, addresses controversial social issues. The strength of these anthologies lies in the inclusion of varied perspectives and opinions on a complex problem in a single volume.
 - At present, the Shasta College Library has over 200 titles in the *Opposing Viewpoints* series. To see the list: Go to the **Library Catalog**, select **Power Search**, scroll down to **Series** and enter *Opposing Viewpoints*.

Online Resources

The library has a vast collection of materials available to you online, including the full-text of electronic books, available through the library catalog, and the full-text of hundreds of articles in magazines and journals, available through the library's extensive collection of databases. Below is a sample of some of these resources:

Books in electronic format:

The Library's [Online eBook](#) collection now comprises 21,000 titles. These vary greatly in subject matter and content. A keyword search on "statistics" retrieves over 200 titles, including:

- *Handbook of U.S. Labor Statistics 2008: Employment, Earnings, Prices, Productivity, and Other*

- *Neonatal and Perinatal Mortality: Country, Regional and Global Estimates* by Zupan, Jelka.; Åhman, Elisabeth. Publication: Geneva WHO, 2006.
- *Social Change in America: The Historical Handbook, 2006* Publication: Lanham, MD Bernan, 2006.

Databases:

The library subscribes to dozens of online databases, most of which offer full-text access to magazines and journals, with both current and historical holdings.

- [Academic Search Premier](#) - This academic, multidisciplinary database covers a variety of subjects in over 4,000 academic publications, including many in full-text from 1975-present
- [MasterFILE Premier](#) - This general, multidisciplinary database covers a variety of subjects, including education, health, business, science, and more. Access to over 1,700 publications, including many in full-text from 1975-present.
- Three databases for multiple perspectives on controversial issues:
 - [Opposing Viewpoints](#). The Shasta College Library also subscribes to both print and online versions of *Opposing Viewpoints*. This database provides access to some primary documents and statistics resources, links to relevant web pages, and includes most of the articles that are published in the print series. **Note:** Due to copyright restrictions, the online edition of *Opposing Viewpoints* does not include all of the articles that comprise the print series. Copyright and licensing laws, not editorial judgment, govern these omissions. An entire perspective on a topic can be deleted from the online edition. Some topics might be covered more completely in print than online.
 - [CQ Researcher](#). This weekly publication dates back to 1923 and provides balanced, in-depth analysis of controversial social issues. Articles are written by seasoned journalists and include concise introductions, timelines, annotated bibliographies, and a pro-con section in which two experts express their opinions. *CQ Researcher* draws on content from the early twentieth century. The editors have decided to leave the original language of these older reports unchanged to preserve the primary-source nature of these reports. The reader is advised that many older reports reflect the language of the day in which they were written. In some cases, reports use nomenclature or terminology that is no longer used and in some cases could be considered offensive by today's standards.
 - [Sirs Knowledge Source](#) is a current events database that collects, summarizes, and organizes previously published articles on controversial issues. Similar to *Opposing Viewpoints* in its presentation of multiple perspectives on a topic, *SIRS Knowledge Source* also includes the full text of reference and background materials. **Note:** Click on **Toolbox** for a link to a [Mini-Debate Outline](#)

Internet sites:

[Associations on the Net](#) is the Internet Public Library's annotated "guide to web sites of prominent organizations and associations" affiliated with the arts and humanities; business and economics; computers and Internet; education; entertainment and leisure; health and medical sciences; law, government, and political science; regional and country information; science and technology; and social sciences.

[ProCon.org](#) , initiated in 2002, is a non-partisan Internet site that solicits and collects articles on controversial social issues. ProCon provides content on 18 controversial topics. The topics covered are much the same as those one would find in the Library's other current controversy databases. Coverage

of each topic is comprehensive, balanced, well organized, and thoughtful. ProCon.org has added at most five new topics a year since its inception. **Caution:** Two of the topics have been “archived;” that is, they are still accessible online but new content is not being added to these topics sites.

American Psychological Association (APA) Style. Most Communications courses at Shasta College file the formatting and citation styles outlined by the American Psychological Association. A few Internet sites that assist with APA Style:

- American Psychological Association. [**APA Style.**](#)
- Diana Hacker. [**APA Style: The Social Sciences.**](#)
- Purdue University Online Writing Lab. [**APA Formatting and Style Guide.**](#)
- Seattle Central Community College Library. [**APA Style Citation Guide**](#)

Ask A Librarian

- Walk-in, when the Library is [open](#)
- Real time [chat](#) when the Library is open
- [Email](#) a librarian (turn around time 24 hours): csingh@shastacollege.edu

Obtain a Library Card

- Faculty teaching solely online and students enrolled solely for Internet courses should follow this link to obtain their Shasta College Library card: [Online \(Internet\) students only](#) . *Note:* Faculty members should enter their Shasta College ID# in the Student ID field)
- Faculty and students teaching or enrolled solely at Extended Education campuses (that is, Intermountain, Tehama, and Trinity) should follow this link to obtain their Shasta College Library card: [Extended Education](#) library card. *Note:* Faculty members should enter their Shasta College ID# in the Student ID field.
- Faculty and students teaching or enrolled in classes at the main Redding campus must visit the library's circulation desk to obtain their library card.

Shasta College Library, Reference (530) 242-7551, Circulation (530) 242-7550, Ask-a-Librarian (530) 242-2347

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