




## Choice Recommended Academic Web Sites

*Choice: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries* annually selects a number of academically oriented web sites as particularly supportive of academic research. On this page are gathered the majority of selected **Recommended** sites from 2009 from all disciplines.

**FYI:** Across the library's web site a ★ gold star *or* **Choice Outstanding Site** indicates an **outstanding** site, while a blue star ☆ indicates a *Highly Recommended* web site; finally a  gray-orange abstract icon indicates a **CHOICE** Recommended web site.

- [Reference](#)
- [Business](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Humanities](#)
- [Science](#)
- [Social Science](#)


### Subject Area :: Reference

### Description


#### *Reference*

General, multi-disciplinary, interdisciplinary reference, large general e-text collections, also general consumer health science titles.


#### [Aboutjobs.com](#)

 useful online network that provides both job and internship listings for part-time, full-time, and international opportunities


#### [American College of Sports Medicine: Health and Physical Activity Reference Database](#)


 This free resource consists of citations to books, book chapters, and articles about the relationship between health and exercise. It is divided into two databases: *Health and Physical Activity* with more than 3,000 references and *Exercise Physiology* with more than 200 references; emphasis is on historic resources and it is funded by the ACSM's Office of Museum, History, and Archives.

#### [CareerVoyages](#)

 A .gov site; this site a collaborative effort between the US Departments of Labor and of Education, offers a resource for individual with few marketable skills, or those lacking education or experience to explore work-related opportunities and make better informed decisions regarding their future. Information is provided in a clear, easy-to-navigate format. The underlying message of this site is that better education leads to greater opportunities.

#### [Center for the Study of the Public Domain](#)

 Duke University, School of Law; no similar site exists elsewhere on the web; the stated mission of the site is *to promote research and scholarship on the contributions of the public domain to speech, culture, science, and innovation, to promote debate about the balance needed in our intellectual property system and to translate academic research into public policy solutions.* Though the sites focus is narrow, the topic of necessity spills over into other areas--e.g. patents, open source licensings, and creative commons. Sometimes, references to "current" workshops or webinars can be dated.

 OCLC's Web Junction service; this is a montly current awareness

[Current Cites](#)

service covering library and information science and related subjects such as copyright issues and the social Web. Available in several forms--RSS, email alerts, and a searchable Web site--it lists over 50 regularly reviewed journals including nonlibrary titles such as *The New York Times*, *EduCAUSE Review*, and *CNET*. With libraries changing so rapidly anyone in the field will benefit from the regular email or RSS updates from this highly respected group of reviewers.

[DailySource.org](#)

■ a nonprofit organization based in Watertown, Mass., whose stated mission is to provide high quality news and information from leading sources across the Internet to help the public more effectively utilize their time, money, and power to benefit themselves, our country and our world. Its editorial team collates print and video stream news stories from the Web sites of leading US and international media news outlets--for example, NSBNC, ABC, CBC, BBC, and Reuters

[FORA.tv: feed your inner genius](#)

■ broad categories are: *Economy, Environment, Politics, Science, Technology, and Culture*; aims to deliver discourse, discussion and debates on the world's most interesting political, social and cultural issues; videos range from a few minutes to a few hours and date back to 2002 (Gore Vidal's *Understanding America's Terrorist Crisis*); Those viewing videos will see a list of related content in the right margin; chapters, speaker biographies, and the transcript (if available) appear under the play. A blog and podcasts are available

[GetEducated.com](#)

■ Educators are responsible for this Web site, which makes the content more valuable and credible than other, more commercial sites. The group describes itself as having a consumer watchdog / consumer advocacy role. Specifically, the site rates, ranks, and verifies the cost, quality, and credibility of online colleges and universities. A tool called **The Diploma Mill Police** allows users to search for specific program names and discover possible frauds. The site's many advertisements make it appear a bit cluttered, but any one considering going back to school or interested in distance education in general will find the site very beneficial.

[Great Issues Forum](#)

■ Sponsored by the Graduate Center of the City University of New York; the CUNY Chancellor's Office and the Carnegie Corporation of New York, this is an online lecture series and blog for the academic community. One reviewer states that *taken as a whole, this intuitive, efficient site offers quality, in-depth discussions on philosophical questions that relate to the contemporary world. It would be especially useful to college-level faculty members looking for sources of discussion and analysis on one of the highlighted topics [politics, economy, military, education, culture]*.

[Informed Medical Decisions.org](#)

■ a portal to a Boston-based nonprofit that works to ensure that the public understands its medical choices and has access to information that permits informed health decisions. Helpful content for patients includes the Ottawa Personal Decision Guide; information about evidence-based decision making, and so on; very straightforward navigation and a clean layout.

[Johns Hopkins Medicine Podcasts, Audio and Multimedia](#)

■ These are weekly 10-minute reviews of studies recently published in medical or scientific journals; the format is question-and-answer; some of the topics are covered in more depth than others; what the podcasts do is offer implications of the studies to all listeners

[Podcast Alley: free the airwaves](#)

■ One of the earliest and still one of the best Podcast Directories

[ProCon.org](http://ProCon.org)

■ a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization with the following mission statement: *Promoting education, critical thinking, and informed citizenship by presenting controversial issues in a straightforward, nonpartisan primarily pro-con format.* As of July 28th 2009 there were 21 topic areas ranging from the 2008 Election (archived) to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict to Prescription Drug Ads. The Web site's editors decide on a topic, formulate questions designed to produce clearly pro or con answers, and solicit responses to the questions from the public, experts, and organizations. The editors then apply a *Theoretical Credibility Ranking* to rank responses on a scale of one star (lowest credibility) to five stars (highest credibility). The details of this ranking system are documented on the site, as are the limitations of approaching all topics as pro vs con. An RSS feed is available to report updates.

[Smoking & Health Resource Library](#)

■ Center for Disease Control has fashioned a database which indexes and abstracts nearly 76,000 journal articles, books, dissertations, reports, conferences, government documents, factsheets, and policy documents from nonprofit organizations. Using *Quick Search* users may retrieve all records by clicking on the search button without any terms, and sort results by year or alphabetically; a good, free resource especially once its search functions are improved.

[Thomas Jefferson Encyclopedia](#)

■ Created by the staff of the Jefferson Library at Monticello; a wiki-based encyclopedia. Only the library and the Thomas Jefferson Foundation staff may add to the wiki and tag entries. The site is a resource for reputable information concerning Jefferson, but cannot substitute for more traditional resources.

[USASpending.gov](http://USASpending.gov)

■ this site provides users with the capability to mine data revolving around money--at least in terms of federal contracts, grants, and other awards. The search engine is very powerful, moreover if you click on a *Data Quality* link you will be able to determine when federal agencies submitted data; Federal contract data is derived from the *Federal Procurement Data System*; data for financial assistance such as grants, loans, Social Security, etc are derived from the *Federal Assistance Award Data System*. The site is not 100% complete, as subcontracts, subgrants, and so on are still underdevelopment.

[WWW Learning Space - OpenLearn: The Open University](#)

■ this web site gives free access to *Open University* (UK) course materials. This is open-source course material, although offerings are somewhat limited, focusing on current demands in the UK educational market; organized according to headings such as *Arts and History, It and Computing, Business and Management, Mathematics and Statistics, Study Skills*, and so on. It is a well designed space with necessary information minus clutter.

## **Subject Area :: Business and Economics**

## **Description**

***Business and Economics***

Most aspects of business and economics.

[Annual Reports Service](#)

■ Offers free annual reports sponsored by the companies participating in PrecisionIR Annual Reports Service; hundreds of companies but does not overlap much with PRARS (see link below) so use both sites. For both services submission of an order to view the annual report means that users are consenting to their data being transferred to the provider of the selected annual report.

■ Uses a federated search technology from Deep Web Technologies, a supplier of custom federated search solutions, to facilitate searching for

[Biznar: Deep Web Business Search - beta](#)

high-quality business resources. *Biznar* provides an informative self-guided tour that explains the details of the search process. Users will discover that, as with many other specialized Web Search engines, some results supply only a free abstract and require payment for the full article.

[Bureau of Labor Statistics: Economy at a Glance](#)

Well-organized site; provides easily accessible and readable data on unemployment rates, average hourly earnings, consumer price index, and producer price index. Data available for the national level and 4 major regions, plus each state and many metropolitan service areas (MSA). Updates occur anytime the BLS receives new data, typically numerous times each month. This is a useful quick overview.

[Business Daily](#)

One of the largest international news sites on the Internet, *Business Daily* provides a great overview of current business and economic news from around the globe. The *Archive* section allows users to view news published on a particular day; also has video, radio and pictures that are accessible and downloadable directly from the site.

[Deloitte's International Tax and Business Guides](#)

sponsored by Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu and developed in cooperation with the Economist Intelligence Unit; 120 countries and jurisdictions covered at one or more of three levels--basic contact information, highlights fact sheets, and a lengthy and detailed *Tax and Business Guide*. Highlight-level information is provided for 112 areas and third-level "Tax and Business Guides" are provided for 48 entities.

[Ethisphere](#)

A forum for Ethisphere Institute, an international think tank dedicated to the creation, advancement, and sharing of best practices in business ethics, corporate social responsibility, anti-corruption, and sustainability. site is a refreshing resource since it offers examples and solutions that are already working for a number of companies

[Finance Resources on the Web](#)

In 2004 and 2005 this site was a *Choice Outstanding Academic Web Site*, however, as the site has grown the ability of the editor and creator to keep all its hundreds of links up-to-date has diminished, thus this year it became a *Choice Recommended Academic Web Site*. It is still easy to navigate, and contains many unique links.

[Financial Crisis News Center](#)

Developed and maintained by CCH publications, a major publisher of tax, legal and business information; provides news updates and links to information on the current financial crisis; site makes very good use of current technology; users can subscribe to the site via email or RSS feed.

[MarketingCharts](#)

published by Watershed Publishing staff in conjunction with staff responsible for a couple of the company's other online business publications; the major drawback to the site is the overly trendy, difficult to navigate home page; the site does contain free, downloadable marketing charts and spreadsheets, and they are all very current--nothing more than 3 months old--but the confusing design means users will have to dig to find what they want

[The Penn World Tables 6.2](#)

Computing in the Humanities and Social Sciences, U of Toronto *Penn World Table* provides purchasing power parity and national income accounts converted to international prices for 188 countries for some or all of the years 1950-2004. The European Union or the OECD provide more detailed purchasing power and real product estimates for their countries and the World Bank makes current price estimates for most PWT countries at the GDP level. Data retrieval is fast and data are easy to read, but the site does not have a mechanism to export the data, or help screens for users.

[PRARS: the Public Register's Annual Report Service](#)

[Wachowicz's Web World: Web Sites for Discerning Finance Students](#)

[Virtual Finance Library from Ohio State University](#)

## Subject Area :: Education

### *Education*

[ADL Curriculum Connections: Anti-Bias Lesson Plans and Resources for K-12 Education](#)

[BBC- Skillswise](#)

[ESLgold: English Study and Learning Materials](#)

[FREE - Federal Resources for Educational Excellence](#)

[Inspiring Teachers](#)

## Subject Area :: Humanities

### *Humanities and Fine Arts*

[African American Band Music & Recordings, 1883-1923](#)

[Atlas of Early Printing](#)

From Bay Tact Corporation, provides free annual reports, prospectuses, and 10Ks for public companies. See also *Annual Reports Service* above. For both services submission of an order to view the annual report means that users are consenting to their data being transferred to the provider of the selected annual report.

Finance portal similar to *Finance Resources on the Web* (see above); a smaller portal but its links are more consistently up-to-date.

Originally tied to a specific course taught by a specific faculty member at Ohio State, the site has expanded to include materials for both undergraduates and graduates. Use it in combination with *Wachowicz's Web World*, and *Finance Resources on the Web* both linked in the list above.

## Description

All aspects of education

Founded in 1913, the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) states that its mission is to fight *all forms of bigotry, defends democratic ideas, and protect civil rights for all*. Compared to many other sites that offer lesson plans the ADL site stands out with offerings that are focused, authoritative and of high quality.

Adult learners interested in acquiring basic literacy and numeracy skills will benefit from this site. One warning, sometimes British-English usages get in the way of understanding for American-English learners; also a few math exercises use non-US currency.

free, highly developed site for individuals wanting to practice English language skills. A useful site for both teachers and students, although self-motivated students will benefit the most.

Indexes more than 1,500 teaching and learning resources under the categories of *Arts and Music, Health and Phys Ed, History and Social Studies, Language Arts, Math, and Science*.

Specifically aimed at new teachers, the site is meant to assist classroom teachers by providing helpful ideas, tips, encouragement, and teaching strategies; also includes recommended books, discussion lists, and a weekly newsletter.

## Description

Art, Communications, History, Language and Literatures, Music. Many aspects of the humanities should also examine *Education and Social Science* web sites

from the Library of Congress; the sites 3 brief essays provide a broad overview of the stock arrangements and recordings; collection includes digitized sets of parts for about 200 arrangements, along with pre-1923 recordings of about 100 songs. AV files are in both MP3 and RealMedia.

University of Iowa Libraries; the *Atlas* is a teaching tool that offers a graphic depiction of the spread of printing up to the year 1500. Site devotes significant space to description individual copies of particularly books printed in 1490. A list of links (all 40 of which were live as of this review) provides access to other Web sites about digitized incunabula.

the premier online source of serious scholarly research in classical art and archaeology; collections consist of *Pottery Database*, *Engraved Gems and Cameos*, *Sculpture Database*, *Antiquaria Database*, and

## [The Beazley Archive](#)

*Inscriptions on Athenian Pottery, c.625-300 BC*. Included are a dictionary of terms, bibliographies, an album function (that can be slow) that can retain specific images for users' reference, time lines, and links to related resources.

## [British Cartoon Archive](#)

■ A Research Center located in the Templeman Library at the University of Kent; web site features a catalogue with over 130,000 images. The primary draw will be for this catalogue; catalogue features some cartoons as far back as the 1790s (e.g. Hogarth); users may display images as JPGs or Flash movies; higher quality images are available for a fee. The Archive assists users with copyright permissions through an online form.

## [British Women Romantic Poets, 1789-1832](#)

■ supported by UC-Davis; the browse function on the home page leads to an alphabetical listing of authors, where users may choose to view texts via *XML*, *HTML*, or *SGML* formats.

## [Digital History](#)

■ Based at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, its purpose is to educate scholars and interested members of the general public about an emerging academic field. Web site is clearly organized, easy to navigate and quickloading.

## [Discovering American Women's History Online](#)

■ A dedicated labor of love by Ken Middleton, a reference librarian at Middle Tennessee State University. Coverage of topics is broad and includes those one would expect to find like suffrage, feminism, and home economics. Specialized topics are included as well, ranging from women rodeo performers and pilots to architects. Historical periods range from the 17th to the 21st century, with emphasis on the 19th century and later. More than 400 collections are available; CONTENTdm provides the database to allow researchers to use advanced search options.

## [Early Modern Resources](#)

■ an informal hub for free sites on many topics set in the early modern period (c. 1492-1800) in Europe. The content is not closely vetted, so that the quality can be somewhat uneven. A site with similar scope, but somewhat more heavily edited is [Early Modern Resources](#) at the University of Michigan.

## [Image Urbis: Giuseppe Vasi's Grand Tour of Rome](#) and [Interactive Nolli Website](#)

■ University of Oregon; the *Image Urbis* is a companion to the *Interactive Nolli Website*; specifically it is a geographic database that presents more than 240 engravings from *Delle Magnificenze di Rome* by Vasi (1710-1782), in the context of the famous and extremely accurate map of Rome by Giambattista Nolli (1701-1756). The site brings together two distinct contemporary approaches to describing 18th-century Rome and sets them in the context of their own time.

## [Making Sense of Modern Art](#)

■ San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; includes firsthand accounts, authoritative analysis, and sharp interactive elements which both illustrate complex ideas and allow deep understanding of individual artworks. The biggest drawback to the sight is its use of extremely modern technology, which means that those lacking newer, well-equipped computers may have trouble loading the rich multimedia

## [Making the History of 1989](#)

■ Web site on the fall of communism in Eastern Europe; includes 300 primary sources which are downloadable as pdf files. A brief analysis accompanies each document; documents can be found using keyword searching or by browsing the teaching modules and case studies.

## [Met History](#)

■ For the *Met History* no overall search engine exists, which means browsing in the hopes of finding; nevertheless opera fans will find this site enjoyable. The other sites linked here provide more usability, and in particular much broader scope than *Met History*. *Operabase*, for example

[Operabase](#)  
[OperaGlass](#) Stanford U  
[Operissimo Concertissimo](#)

[Poetry Foundation.org](#)

[Sheet Music Consortium](#)

[Virtual Instrument Museum](#)

## Subject Area :: Sciences

*Sciences*

[Action Bioscience - Promoting Bioscience Literacy](#)

[Aldo Leopold Archives](#)

indexes 30,000 performances, 35,000 artists and 600 opera companies in its database, while *OperaGlass* takes an in-depth look and *Libretti and Source Texts*, as well as *Discographies and Role Creators*. *Operissimo* specializes in tracking currently playing operas in most of the world's major opera venues. *Opera lovers should explore all of the sites mentioned.*

📖 A useful source of poems, criticism, literary news, and biographies; the site is maintained by the venerable *Poetry Magazine*, site includes access to audios and podcasts; *Poetry Tool* is a nice feature that appears in the right margin of some sections and allows searching by subject category, title, first letter of first line, occasion, and glossary term. Overall a significant number of poets are represented, though the site tends to focus on poets of North and South America, and the Caribbean. [Poets.org](#) also offers a good collection of audio materials.

📖 supported by UC-Los Angeles, Indiana University, Johns Hopkins University and Duke University; the goal of the *Consortium* is to use the Open Archives Initiative: Protocol for Metadata Harvesting (OAI-PMH) to create a unified index to a broad group of digitized sheet music collections. In addition to the *Consortium's* considerable sheet music holdings, the project has so far harvested metadata from the Library of Congress, the National Library of Australia, and the Maine Music Box. A very useful personal log-in feature allows users to create their own virtual collections and to add annotations for future use.

📖 Wesleyan University; site provides information and multimedia offerings for selected musical instruments from Wesleyan's *World Music Instrument Collection*; especially when viewing videos Windows-based PC's sometimes crashed; videos are well produced and potentially useful for understanding performance technique; new instruments are slowly but steadily being entered; the site is especially a treat for casual visitors interested in the diversity of global musical traditions, and a valuable resource for those researching the particular musical traditions the site focuses on

## Description

Biology, Chemistry, Computer Sciences & Mathematics, Engineering, Geology, History of Science

📖 Published by the American Institute of Biological Sciences, this site is a free educational Web site designed to inform readers about issues related to bioscience literacy. Each section contains original articles written by academicians, scientists, science undergraduate students, and freelance writers. **All** articles written specifically for *Action Bioscience* undergo independent peer review prior to publication; articles by students are reviewed by educators or other professionals. The only feature that could use improvement is a site directory which contains a laundry list of more than 140 topics. Subheadings or subtitles would have been helpful.

📖 University of Wisconsin; provides access to the written works of one of the great early 20th Century conservationists; consists of digitized resources from Leopold's main body of work from the end of the 19th century until his death in 1948; users can search the collection by title, author and illustration; Boolean and proximity search is also available.

📖 The genus *Allium*--ornamental onion--includes many attractive, underused flowering plants. Site is reasonably organized but some sections

[Allium Central](#)

such as Dwarf Alliums only have a placeholder title; the site is attractive with photographs and information not easily found elsewhere online...but it is incomplete in several areas.

[American Association of the History of Nursing, Inc.](#)

Site is organized for easy access but does need some attention to updating of resources; includes a calendar for marking milestones in nursing history, as well as serving as a repository for photographs and information on the role of the late-19th-century nurse.

[BioPortal--Government of Canada](#)

Site provides access to a broad range of information from four dozen Canadian provincial and federal government agencies pertaining to biotechnology applications that affect the environment, economy, food health, and industry. As one reviewer states *superb cite organization makes it easy to browse or search for information*

[CERN: The Large Hadron Collider](#)

sub-titled: *The Universe is About to Change*, the site section descriptions are detailed without heavy use of jargon, and range from 300 to more than 2000 words. LHC Milestones provides a graphic-rich time line in both Flash and HTML, from 1980 to the present. Because the site is graphics-rich some links and documents require extended time to load.

[\[Computer\] Virus Encyclopedia](#)

a concise resource on malicious programs including viruses, Trojans, worms, and other malware; published by *Kaspersky Lab* the producers of Internet security and antivirus software; it is part of *Viruslist.com*, but is not intended to be a replacement for the *usually* more up-to-date commercial sites at [Symantic](#) and [McAfee](#)

[Dynamic Periodic Table](#)

While offering nothing new, this is a clean well-organized site, which has 32 different language settings, and loads very rapidly; some more powerful sites are so graphic intensive as to discourage use by those with slower access to the web

[Genes and Disease](#)

produced and maintained by the national Center for Biotechnology Information, part of the National Library of Medicine (NLM) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Part of NCBI's Bookshelf, the site summarizes 80 genetic disorders; for each disorder the underlying mutation (s) and clinical features are presented. The site is well designed for navigation; and a search box gives options to search the book, all e-books in the Bookshelf or *PubMed*

[Global Footprint Network](#)

Established in 2003 in Oakland, California with international offices in Brussels and Zurich, the *GFN* is an international think tank focused on *advancing the science of sustainability*. The database is divided into four sections: Footprint Basics, Footprint Science, Partnerships, and Resources. Footprint Science offers a link to download *The Ecological Footprint Atlas*, an 87-page document describing the basic premises involved. Use of terminology sometimes got in the way of clarity; there is a blog, radio/ video interviews and links to various reports and articles

[Global Invasive Species Database](#)

The best of several similar sites; see also [Noxious Weeds](#).

[Internet Bird Collection](#)

Sponsored by the *Handbook of the Birds of the World*, this site is an online video library of the world's birds. The site contains more than 28,000 videos representing 5,500 species and continues to grow. Browsing is hierarchical and starts with orders and then families. The database is punctuation sensitive--that is if a common name includes a hyphen (black-capped chickadee, etc.) the hyphen **must be** included in the search request or no results will be retrieved. The IBC's ranking tab allows video sorting by average user rating, which is often quite helpful. The IBC is the only site containing such a large collection of bird videos.

[Mathematical Programming Glossary](#)

Published by INFORMS Computing Society, this glossary is available to users for free. It features terms related to mathematical programming, economics, computer science, and mathematics. Glossary terms are listed alphabetically; a search box is also available. However, according to one review the primary problem is that definitions of some terms do not address all relevant disciplines. Nevertheless the site is user friendly, easy to navigate and one of the better online dictionaries for the disciplines mentioned above.

[Nanowerk](#)

Published and owned by Nanowerk LLC, a comprehensive and educational nanotechnology / nanoscience portal. Provides a well-organized home page and a free searchable Nanomaterial Database. The site will be useful for professionals, educators, and academics as well as providing lesson plans and other supporting material helpful for teaching high school and college students.

[National Marine Sanctuaries Media Library](#)

site describes itself as *an online vault where a comprehensive collection of select video clips and high-resolution still images from America's underwater treasures are securely stored and available for searchable access and download*; the nature of the collection requires QuickTime and a fast internet connection.

[NBII-Library of Digital Images from the Environment](#)

*National Biological Information Infrastructure* (NBII) is a broad, collaborative program to provide increased access to data and information on the nation's biological resources; site managed by the US Geological Survey's Biological Informatics Office. Currently *DIL* has more than 11,000 images organized in various categories. A search box allows users to search for specific images; metadata include scientific nomenclature, a detailed description, keywords, photograph date, geographic location, and usage rights.

[NSF and the Birth of the Internet - Special Report](#)

Sponsored by the NSF; site is organized by decades with each decade section offering between 4 and 6 topics for further information; some topics also include a brief video; *The Sequential Maps of Internet Growth* provide an interesting geographic description of Internet growth. This is a Flash-based Web site, with a text-only version also available. It is easy to navigate and locate content.

[PhysClips: Mechanics with Animations and Video Film Clips](#)

The site authors (both Univ. of New South Wales, School of Physics), skillfully combine film clips, animations (requiring the Flash 6 plug-in), still photos, montages, and diagrams to bring fun to teaching introductory physics, mainly mechanics and areas of electricity and magnetism. *PhysClips* won the 12th (and last) Pirelli International Award for best multimedia science communication of physics in 2007. A comparable site is the University of Colorado's [PhET - Physics Education Technology](#) which includes 49 interactive physics simulations.

[Plant Information Online](#)

University of Minnesota; a beautifully designed site which provides access to a database for more than 109,189 plants, 384,996 citations to 145,554 plants in science and garden literature; links to selected websites for images and regional information about 13,612 plants.

[Proteopedia: The Free, Collaborative 3D Encyclopedia of Proteins & other Molecules](#)

wiki-based; as with all open access systems, the quality of the information depends on the users and the editors who track the changes; the data checked by one recent reviewer of the site (February 2009) was reported to be accurate *although the amount of information given varied widely* [from protein to protein].

provides access to more than 70 blogs by selected leading bloggers

[ScienceBlogs](#)

from a wide variety of scientific disciplines; the *ScienceBlogs* staff does not edit the selected bloggers' work. Excellent site organization makes for easy browsing; a weekly newsletter is available for email; particularly useful for students and general readers who strive to keep up-to-date with ongoing science community online discussions

[SciTopics](#)

Launched in January 2009, and developed by one of the world's largest science publishers--Elsevier--with the aim of providing the research community with a *free online expert-generated knowledge sharing service* on scientific, technical and medical (STM) subjects, at present it features 25 subjects and covers more than 1,000 topics. To ensure high quality and relevant content, subject editors invite experts in the field to write summaries of the topics. Topics are formatted as encyclopedia entries with links to further readings; as part of Elsevier's "Research 2.0" initiative *SciTopics* is designed to complement traditional peer-review processes. RSS feeds are available.

[SearchMedica.com](#)

a specialized search engine built to help find free Internet information aimed at the professional medical community; the site is easily navigated; registration is free and offers additional benefits

[Stanford Engineering Everywhere \(SEE\)](#)

a collection of engineering course material produced and maintained by the Stanford School of Engineering. Currently there are ten courses, including a core three-course series on computer programming, a three-course series on artificial intelligence, and a four-course series on linear systems and optimization. The preferred viewing tool is Microsoft Silverlight, which offers present bookmarks that help viewers deal with the length of the lectures--generally an hour or more. Users that prefer reading or who have slow connection speeds can obtain transcripts of the lectures as HTML or pdf files.

[Tiempo Climate Cyberlibrary](#)

a coproduction of the Stockholm Environment Institute and the International Institute for Environment and Development; the site has two components and Tiempo Climate Newswatch and a Tiempo Climate Portal. The Portal had a number of dead or changed links; the weekly Newswatch is very good, while the Portal is more problematic due to lack of updating

[US Fish & Wildlife Service--Species](#)

authoritative, user-friendly site which provides technical information about plant and animal species, updates on legislation and policy regarding species management, and details about species conservation. An Image Library offers a large collection of copyright-free images, which might be particularly useful to teachers searching for just such rights free images.

[The Virtual Museum of Minerals and Molecules](#)

Universities of Wisconsin and Minnesota; the site is a collection of 3-D images of minerals and organic molecules; each exhibit includes a 3-D image, which can be rotated in all directions; the information is presented in a clear, accessible manner, making the exhibits potentially useful to engaged high school students and the general public, as well as the primary academic and professional audiences

[Yale Environment 360](#)

an online magazine published by the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies; scientists, journalists, academics, environmentalists, and policy makers provide the content. *e360* includes both opinion pieces and scientific research, each type of article is clearly labeled; a search engine is provided and the site offers RSS feeds and an email newsletter.

**Subject Area :: Social Sciences**

**Description**

Anthropology, Criminology, Law, Political Science, Psychology, Social

Work, Sociology, and related areas. Many areas in the social sciences should also examine *Education and Humanities web sites*.

[Center for Future Civic Media](#)

MIT; site provides the following definition: *Civic media is any form of communication that strengthens the social bond within a community or creates a stronger sense of civic engagement among its citizens. Civic media goes beyond news gathering and reporting....future refers to the delivery of that communication and development of those bonds principally through electronic means.*

[Civil Rights Digital Library](#)

University of Georgia; an excellent resource for educators wishing to incorporate primary source material into the classroom; site materials are organized according to *Events, Places, People, Topics, Media Types, Contributing Institutions, and Educator Resources*; may also browse alphabetically.

[David Rumsey Map Collection](#)

Extensive digitized gallery of maps, globes, atlases, charts, school geographies, and so on; site focuses on cartography of the Americas from the 18th and 19th centuries

[Diseases of the Mind: Highlights of American Psychiatry through 1900](#)

Permanent online exhibit from the National Library of Medicine's History of Medicine Division; throughout visitors will find illustrations and links to digitized primary sources; the site is monitored and updated regularly and a printer-friendly version of each section is available.

[JUSTNET: Justice Technology Information Network](#)

National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center (NLECTC), part of the National Institute of Justice's Office of Science and Technology, a research and development agency of the US Department of Justice. The site covers 18 major topics including *Body Armor, Less-Lethal Technologies, Crime Mapping, and School Safety*. This is the premier resource for technology information in criminal justice--well organized and easy to navigate.

[The Living Room Candidate: Presidential Campaign Commercials, 1954-2004](#)

An extraordinary resource for those who study or teach political communication or US political history; one reviewer said *it is simply interesting [and] voters, marketing professionals or even those looking for something memorable to watch on the Web will enjoy visiting the site*. The site includes a brief introduction of every presidential campaign year and has notes on a handful of individual ads.

[Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute on Government](#)

sub-titled **Independent Research on America's State and Local Governments**; institute publishes many reports and papers concerning specific the areas of state and local finance, federalism and intergovernmental relations, NY state statistics and related information. To quote one review *The institute's research and data division has several in-depth studies that should be useful to professors and policy wonks*.

[PolicyArchive.org](#)

Project of Indiana University-Purdue University's Indianapolis Library; *PolicyArchive* features a wide variety of material, including reports, charts, videos, and white papers. An ambitious, open-access site which is self-described as *a comprehensive digital library of public policy research containing over 24,000 documents*; the site is a tremendous boon to a wide range of users seeking this difficult to find material.

[Wilson Center OnDemand](#)

OnDemand features audio and video recordings of programs sponsored by the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, a nonpartisan institution providing a forum for dialogue on national and international affairs. Two search options are available; the simple search provides keyword searching; an advanced search allows searchers to limit by topic, region, speaker, program, sponsor, and date. The overall design

is simple and navigation is straightforward.

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