



## Women's Suffrage WebQuest Library Research Trail

**Objective:** This assignment will help you identify primary and secondary sources that are important for completing the semester's final research paper.

**Purpose:** Proper documentation (full citation of your sources) is "proof" that you have completed the assignment. Learning good habits collecting information necessary for citations is one of the goals of this exercise. Be sure you collect enough information about each source so that you can easily find it again and include all the details you will need in a footnote or bibliography citation. Getting in the habit of including full citations on every piece of evidence collected in your research will save you lots of time and frustration. Your citations and bibliography should follow the MLA format handout.

### **Instructional Process:**

#### **Step 1:**

What is your research question? (All research begins with a question, not a topic. Most researchers start with a broad question that narrows as research progresses. Remember that for this class you are limited to a topic in American/U.S. history regarding women's suffrage.

#### **Step 2:**

Start your research by checking at least two encyclopedias or dictionaries references for background material on your research topic. For example, encyclopedias are Encyclopedia Britannica which can be accessed online at <http://www.britannica.com>. Encyclopedias and dictionaries are a great place to start your search for basic information about a topic. After you locate each encyclopedia or dictionary, cite the information under the encyclopedia/dictionary subtitle on the Work Cited handout.

#### **Step 3:**

List five books discovered in your search that you think will be beneficial to your project. (Remember, you will need to do general reading on issues related to your topic). After you locate

each book, cite the information with a full bibliographic citation under the book subtitle on the Work Cited handout.

**Step 4:**

Locate at least three scholarly journal articles that you think might be helpful to your research and give their full citations below. You do not need to include the full text of the article as documentation (although you may want to print out a copy for yourself to use later). Be sure to use a scholarly journal. Scholarly journals include footnotes or endnotes and are refereed by experts in the field. (There will be a listing of an editorial board of experts at the front of each journal issue). Popular magazines such as *Time*, *Newsweek*, *Sports Illustrated*, etc. are NOT scholarly journals. If available, a few of the most popular databases for journal articles on American history are: America, History, and Life, JSTOR, and Project Muse. After you locate a journal, document and cite the information under the scholarly journal subtitle on the Work Cited handout.

**Step 5:**

Locate at least two historical newspapers or magazine articles. Use *Pennsylvania Digital Repository*: <http://205.247.101.31/index.php>. Search Words and Phrases: Women's suffrage, Women's suffrage movement, 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment or Nineteenth Amendment, Women voting, Disenfranchisement, a Specific Event, Person, Place, or Date.

**Step 6:**

You MUST cite a minimum of ten different Websites, including the websites you use to locate background information as well as additional sites relevant to your topic and time period. Review your sources and make sure the citations are structured using MLA format. Also, make sure you have located ALL required documents stated above. You will type your bibliography using Microsoft Word and submit a hand when the assignment is completed.