

# History Study Center™ Quick Start Guide



## About History Study Center™

History Study Center (HSC) offers schools valuable historical reference material that covers **more than 2000 years** of history – from ancient to modern, old world to new world. Explore the rise and fall of the Roman Empire, the growth of Islam, the ideas of Enlightenment and Revolution, the effects of colonialism, the explosion of American pop culture, and much more. It's a unique reference tool that delivers a comprehensive collection of primary and secondary source material relevant to the study of history and social studies.

## Part 1: Submit a Search Query

You can access HSC in two ways: through an eLibrary Canada Curriculum Edition (CE) subscription, or directly through a standard HSC subscription. To search HSC through eLibrary Canada CE, click the History icon on the main search screen and follow the directions below.



HSC research begins at the main search page. You can search the database using a simple keyword search query (**Quick Search**), **Advanced Search**, follow the **Study Unit**; browse libraries of resources and Web sites, or through our *KnowledgeNotes* History Guides located in the **Maps & Reference**.

The screenshot shows the History Study Center main search page. At the top, there is a search bar with a 'Search for:' field, a dropdown menu set to 'in: All content', and a 'Go!' button. To the right of the search bar is a link for 'Advanced search'. Below the search bar is a navigation menu with 'Home', 'Information Resources', 'My Archive', and 'Help'. On the right side, there is a 'Search/Browse:' section with several categories: 'Study Units', 'Historical Documents', 'Maps & Reference', 'Multimedia', and 'Journals'. The main content area features a collage of historical images and a 'This month's theme is: Colonial History' section. At the bottom, there are links for 'Contact us', 'Privacy policy', 'Accessibility statement', 'Site map', and an 'END SESSION' button.

**A** points to the search bar.

**B** points to the 'Go!' button.

**C** points to the 'Advanced search' link.

*Quick Search section* is labeled on the left side.

*Highlighted Historical Figures or Events* is labeled on the left side.

*Search and Browse features* is labeled on the right side.

*Main Search page* is labeled at the bottom right.

### To submit a simple keyword search query (Quick Search)

1. Type one or more keywords in the **Quick Search** text box (**A**).
2. Putting quotation marks around a phrase will allow HSC to search for an exact phrase, e.g. "**Hudson's Bay Company**".
3. Click the **Go!** button (**B**). HSC searches the database for documents matching your search query and displays a list of matching documents in the form of a results page (discussed in Part 2).

### Optional advanced search features

**HSC Advanced Search (C)** offers additional search fields that enable you to limit your search results to a particular content type or title or limit a search to biographical material only.

Note that you can access this advanced search page by clicking **Refine Search** at the top of any results page.

Here's a brief description of the **Advanced Search** (each of these options is also available from the main search page for individual searching):

- **Study Units** is comprised of a brief introduction to the topic followed by a range of links to reference works, biographies, maps, primary sources, images, video, secondary sources, and Web resources.
- **Historical Documents** search allows you to precisely search the historical document content in *History Study Center*.
- **Maps and Reference** access to search for maps and reference articles and topic overviews using a variety of options. The **Topic Overviews** area allows you to access information from the *KnowledgeNotes* History Guides. These guides are specifically designed for history students to complement the reading and guidance provided by teachers. There are two types of History Guides, topic-based guides and text-based guides. Text guides deal with two different types of text, key historical documents (designed to aid understanding of complex and unfamiliar primary source material) and important works of historiography. Topic guides cover significant trends and events in history, ranging from themes such as witchcraft in early modern Europe, to definable events such as the Vietnam War. Each guide combines detailed analysis of the topic or text with introductory and contextual material and suggestions for further reading. Also included in this section are *Oxford Very Short Introduction* to specific historical topics.
- **Multimedia** includes Images, Video and Web links. Choose **Images** if you want to search for editorially assured historical images. Choose **Video** if you want to search for editorially assured video clips. Choose the **Web links** if you are interested in searching for editorially assured historical web sites.
- Choose **Journals** if you want to search for articles from over 60 periodicals, selected for their relevance to historians. You have the option of searching all journal articles, limiting your search to book reviews only, or you may exclude book reviews from your search.

## Part 2: Review Your Results List

After clicking the search button, a results page appears, summarizing your search success and listing those documents and other materials that match your search query.

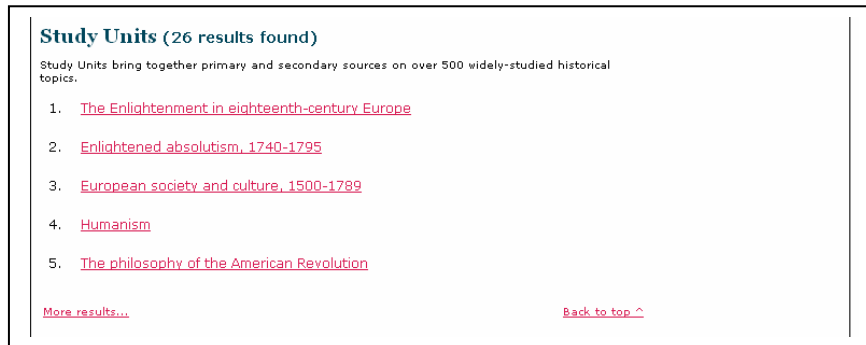
Results page

Results Summary



The results summary allows you to jump down to that section of the results page. In this example, we clicked the **Study Units** link. You will notice the number of results found for each resource type is listed besides the heading.

Study Unit links



Study Units

Click a study unit on the list to open it, or select the **More Results** link to navigate through the available units on this topic. In the example shown below, we clicked the first study unit on the list to continue.

## Part 3: Working With a Study Unit

After clicking a **Study Unit** title in the results list, the unit's resource listing appears. The resources available include a brief introduction to the **Study Unit** topic (A), range of links to **Topic Overviews, Reference, etc.** (B). Below the range of links is the **Highlights** section. This section features the best documents from the various **Study Unit** sources to get students started with key materials.

\*Note that the text is different color (C) to help learners find the most relevant text within the document.

B  
C



Study Unit detail page

### Part 4: Working With a Full Document

After clicking a document title in the results list, the full text of that document appears. Note that in some cases the text is a different color to help learners find relevant text. In the example shown below, the document contains links to other relevant historical information.

Bibliographic Information

Full Text

**HISTORY STUDY CENTER**

Search for:  in: All content  [Advanced search](#)


[Home](#) | [Information Resources](#) | [My Archive](#) | [Help](#) | Search/Browse:

- Study Units
- Historical Documents
- Maps & Reference
- Multimedia
- Journals

### Maps & Reference Article

[<< Back to Study Unit](#)

[Print view](#) | [Save to my archive](#)

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#### Enlightened Absolutists

The name applied to rulers of the second half of eighteenth century who continued the build-up of **ABSOLUTISM**, fortified by the theories of the Enlightenment. Their motives were primarily practical - i.e. they needed to strengthen the power of their central Governments in order to suppress anarchic tendencies at home, and provide security against dangers from abroad - but they could not but be influenced by the current teachings of the *philosophes*. (Neither could their opponents, the guardians of tradition.)

The Enlightenment was not a coherent body of thought, but was broadly the collection of ideas which were in vogue among thinking men in the second half of eighteenth century. Deriving ultimately from classical times and the Renaissance, these ideas were developed in seventeenth century Holland and Britain: e.g. by René Descartes with his rationalistic approach and habit of systematic doubt; by John Locke who based his philosophy and political theory on observation; and by Isaac Newton, who demonstrated the powers of observation and experiment with his laws of motion and gravitation. In the eighteenth century, these ideas were further developed in France, and published all

Typical Document Page