


PSCI 274 – THE NATURE OF WAR

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The location and call number of each publication is given in parentheses at the end of its bibliographic entry. All publications in this guide may be found on the 4th level (the main floor) of the Central Library unless otherwise noted. The URL for the Vanderbilt Library home page is <http://www.library.vanderbilt.edu/>. The latest version of this handout may be found at <http://www.library.vanderbilt.edu/romans/handouts/psci274.pdf>.

Periodical Articles & Papers

At the Vanderbilt Library home page, on the right under “Find Articles and Databases,” click on “Articles and Databases.” Then enter initials of the database in the “search for database by name” box and press [enter].

Sometimes entire articles are available in full-text directly on the database you are searching. You must look up others by clicking on “Find a copy” and then on the  button. See if the article is available online through another database or in print in the library. Also, click on “Cite this” and choose the citation style you want from the pull-down list, to find out how to cite the article.

Worldwide Political Science Abstracts (WPSA), 1975-. ([Database](#))

The most comprehensive Political Science database. Provides citations, abstracts, and indexing of the international serials literature in political science and its complementary fields, including international relations, law, and public administration / policy. Use the * (asterisk) to substitute for word endings. E-mail: citations. You can also click on “change: specific databases and add IBSS and PAIS to the databases you are searching.

Sample search: DE=(Dominican Republic) and coup*

PAIS International, 1972-. ([Database](#))

Covers current events, public policy issues, and the social sciences in general--including economic and social conditions, government and politics, and international relations. Indexes a broad range of materials--books, pamphlets, and publications of the U.S. government and of international organizations. Use the * (asterisk) to substitute for word endings. E-mail: citations.

Sample search: DE=(Dominican Republic) and coup*

America History and Life (AHL), 1954- ([Database](#)) and Historical Abstracts (HA), 1954- ([Database](#))

The most comprehensive History databases. *America History and Life* covers U.S. and Canadian history; *Historical Abstracts* covers history of all other areas of the world. Abstracts relevant articles from about 1,700 journals and provides citations to book reviews and to dissertations. Use the * (asterisk) to substitute for word endings.

Sample search: Dominican Republic in SU and coup* in TX

JSTOR. (<http://www.jstor.org/search/>) and **Project MUSE.** (<http://muse.jhu.edu/search/search.pl>)

Full-text online backfiles of core scholarly journals on many subjects. JSTOR's full-text coverage begins at the first issue of each journal and usually ends within five years of the present. Project MUSE has more current issues, but covers fewer journals.

Sample search: "dominican republic" AND coup?

A periodical database like Proquest provides both popular and scholarly articles on many topics.

Vanderbilt Library home page → “[Find Articles and Databases](#)” (upper right) → “Top Databases” (near top)

Proquest. ([Database](#))

Provides citations and summaries of articles from over 4,000 publications, with many in full-text. Indexes a broad range of social sciences publications, numerous general-interest magazines such as *Time* and *Newsweek*, and recent issues of major newspapers. E-mail: articles.

Search Tip #1: Use the * (asterisk) to substitute for word endings. **Sample Search: coups d etat**

Search Tip #2: Before you search, you can limit the number of databases you look at: click on the downward arrow to the right of “Databases:” and choose “[Interdisciplinary: Proquest Research Library.](#)”

Search Tip #3: After entering your basic search, look at the “suggested topics” above the results you get. Click on the most appropriate one to get a list of the items that focus most on that topic. **Sample: click on coups d etat as your suggested topic. After you get your results, go to the bottom of the page and add at the end of the search: and dominican republic**

Another tip: After entering your basic search, if you don't get many results, look at the list of results. From the titles of the articles listed, you may see other words or terms that will focus your topic better.

Sample search: LSU({COUPS D ETAT}) and dominican republic

Sample search: LPER({OBAMA, BARACK}) and afghanistan

Books

At the Vanderbilt Library home page → “Find Books and Other Items” (upper left) → “Acorn”

The Basics

Acorn is the catalog for all 9 libraries in the Heard Library system, as well as a few other libraries on campus (like the Women's Center and the Family Resource Center). It lists almost all books in all Vanderbilt libraries and most U.S. government publications distributed after July 1976. It lists which periodicals we subscribe to, but does not list individual articles.

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At the Vanderbilt Library home page → “Find Books and Other Items” (upper left) → “Acorn”

For books by a specific author, enter the author's name (surname first), then select “author begins with” from the drop-down menu

For a specific book, enter the first few words of the title, then select “title begins with” from the drop-down menu

After finding the call numbers for the books you want, check the location chart by the main elevators to find out the level on which those books are shelved. Look at other books shelved near the books listed in Acorn, since they will be about similar subjects.

Keyword Searching

For items on a topic, enter the keywords for the topic, and select “words anywhere) from the drop-down menu.
Two hints:

- (1) Use a \$ to substitute for word endings** (for example, working paper\$). This is for keyword searching **ONLY**. To search for a phrase, enclose the phrase with single rather than double quotes (for example, 'north atlantic treaty').
- (2) Use Boolean operators and or or** to connect each keyword or phrase with the others.

AND narrows a search by retrieving **only** records that contain all of your search terms. The computer displays only the parts of the sets that overlap.

EXAMPLE: **discrimination and housing** will retrieve only records that contain both discrimination and housing.

EXAMPLE: **dominican republic and coup\$**

EXAMPLE: **intervene\$ and haiti**

OR broadens a search by retrieving **all** records that contain even one of your search terms. The computer adds together sets of records.

EXAMPLE: **gender or sex** will retrieve all records that contain either gender or sex or both.

EXAMPLE: **middle east or near east**

Do NOT include words like act, program, united, states, department, and bureau in your keyword search. They appear in too many citations.

News Articles

Proquest ([Database](#))

To the right of the Database box, click on "Select Multiple Databases." Then click on "Clear All Databases." Scroll down to the bottom and select the historical newspapers or click on "ProQuest National Newspapers Core," and then click on "Continue." Enter your subject in the search box and select a data range. Click on the "Search" button.

ProQuest National Newspapers Core includes:

- * The New York Times (1980-present) ; * The Wall Street Journal (1984-present);
- * Washington Post (1987-present); * Los Angeles Times (1985-present);
- * Christian Science Monitor (1988-present)

Sample search: defense spending and obama

Historical Newspapers includes:

- * Chicago Tribune (Coverage: April 23, 1849 - Dec. 31, 1986); * The Chicago Defender (1905-1975);
- * The New York Times (Sept 18, 1851-Dec 31, 2005); * The Washington Post (Dec 12, 1877-Dec 31, 1992)

Sample search: dominican republic and coup* which you have to limit by date.

News Resources and Broadcast Media (<http://www.library.vanderbilt.edu/romans/news.html>)

Newspapers on Microform (<http://www.library.vanderbilt.edu/central/newsnewspapers.htm>)

Arranged by state. For each newspaper provides coverage and Microfilm number. Includes:

- * Atlanta Constitution (1869-1875; 1881-2001) (Microfilm 1835)
- * Christian Science Monitor (1939-current issues) (Microfilm 1484 – 6th level)
- * Los Angeles Times (1960-current issues) (Microfilm 2220)
- * The Times [London] (1785-current issues) (Microfilm 796)
- * Washington Post (1953-current issues) (Microfilm 1957– 6th level; before 1989 at annex)

Newspaper Indexes (<http://www.library.vanderbilt.edu/romans/news.html#newsindex>)

Online indexes to newspapers.

CQ Weekly [Congressional Quarterly Weekly Report], 1946-. (**Database, 1983-**) Latest five years: GOVT REF Alcove JK1.C15--West Wall)

Best source for current developments on political issues and campaigns and on activities of all three branches of government. Choose Archive "Search Articles" and **use the * (asterisk) to substitute for word endings.**

For the paper version, the yellow pages provide a cumulative index.

For the defense-related policy paper, use the advanced search, enter Obama and your policy, and choose Defense as your topic.

Search sample: Obama and military spending

The annual **Congressional Quarterly Almanac** (GOVT REF Alcove JK1.C66--West Wall) and quadrennial

Congress and the Nation (GOVT REF Alcove JK1001.C6--West Wall) summarize and arrange **CQ Weekly** information by topic.

Obama Defense Assignment

Congressional Hearings (Microfiche GOVT Y 4.____)

Testimony on proposed legislation, an existing government program, or an event: spokespersons for the administration, interest group representatives, state and local officials, members of Congress, and others interested in the passage or defeat of legislation. Search on *LEXIS-NEXIS Congressional* ([Database](#)) or Acorn to identify hearings on your topic.

LEXIS-NEXIS Congressional, 1789-1969; 1970-. ([Database](#))

Indexes CRS reports, U.S. Congressional hearings and committee prints, and documents from other Congressional units. Use the ! (exclamation mark) to substitute for word endings. Includes *CIS/Index*.

Analysis of appropriate bills gives information about relevant public policies.

Sample search: appropriation! and (military or defense) and change Date to after Jan. 20, 2009.

Google (<http://www.google.com/>)

Professors, librarians, and researchers of all kinds use Google, and there's no reason that you shouldn't.

However, beware that there is nobody who checks for accuracy or fairness on the Internet. **To narrow your Google search to more dependable web sites, click on "Advanced Search" and choose one or both of these options:**

Google Scholar (<http://scholar.google.com/>). Searches specifically for scholarly literature, including peer-reviewed papers, theses, books, preprints, abstracts and technical reports from all broad areas of research.

Google U.S. Government Search (formerly Uncle Sam) (<http://www.google.com/ig/usgov>)-- Searches all U.S. federal, state and local government .gov and .mil sites, as well as select government sites with .com, .us,

and .edu domains (e.g., .usps.com, .ca.us, and ndu.edu).
Sample search: (failed coups OR coup attempts) and dominican republic

U.S. Government Accountability Office. 2009 Congressional and Presidential Transition.
(http://www.gao.gov/transition_2009/)
Look at "Urgent Issues."

U.S. White House. The Agenda – Defense. (<http://www.whitehouse.gov/agenda/defense/>)

U.S. Department of Defense (<http://www.defenselink.mil/>)

U.S. Department of State (<http://www.state.gov/>)
Useful for information about U.S. policy in Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, and other hot spots.

Failed or Attempted Coups Assignment

List of Coups d'état and Coup Attempts – Wikipedia
(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_coups_d'%C3%A9tat_and_coup_attempts)
Not an academic source, but a good way to see options for choosing the attempted coup you plan to study.

McGowan, Patrick J. "African military coups d'état, 1956–2001: frequency, trends and distribution." *The Journal of Modern African Studies* 41 (no. 03: Sept. 2003): 339-370.
(<http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayFulltext?type=1&fid=173443&jid=MOA&volumeld=41&issuelid=03&aid=173442>)

Marshall, Monty G., and Donna Ramsey Marshall. *Coup d'Etat Events, 1960-2006*. Codebook. Center for Systematic Peace. Jan. 10, 2007. (<http://www.systemicpeace.org/inscr/CSPCoupsCodebook2006.pdf>)

Jessup, John E. *An Encyclopedic Dictionary of Conflict and Conflict Resolution, 1945-1996*. Greenwood Publishing Group, 1998
([http://books.google.com/books?id=jh3Q5F7BaB8C&pg=PA163&lpg=PA163&dq=\(failed+coups+OR+coup+attempts\)+and+dominican+republic&source=bl&ots=gscyUHL3c_&sig=FLS2n13yScowK7KOOtrX8OfRv8&hl=en&ei=3ITWSeX6L5bqIQfo0f3CDA&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=3#PPP1,M1](http://books.google.com/books?id=jh3Q5F7BaB8C&pg=PA163&lpg=PA163&dq=(failed+coups+OR+coup+attempts)+and+dominican+republic&source=bl&ots=gscyUHL3c_&sig=FLS2n13yScowK7KOOtrX8OfRv8&hl=en&ei=3ITWSeX6L5bqIQfo0f3CDA&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=3#PPP1,M1))

Kebschull, Harvey G. "Operation 'Just Missed': Lessons From Failed Coup Attempts." *Armed Forces & Society* 20 (No. 4, 1994): 565-579. (on order)

Strosser, Edward, and Michael Prince. *Stupid Wars: A Citizen's Guide to Botched Putsches, Failed Coups, Inane Invasions, and Ridiculous Revolutions*. New York: Collins, 2008. (Reserve D25.5 .S84 2008)