

Selected Reference Books



You usually use a reference book to find specific information; it is not intended to be read from beginning to end. It contains facts brought together from any sources and organized for quick and easy use. (Reference books are often great for browsing and for broadening and deepening your background and interest.)

This list shows some important and interesting examples of the *types* of reference books in the LACC Library. The call number—which tells the location—is shown here after the title for most books.

GENERAL ENCYCLOPEDIAS (on table 2 in Reference Center)

1. *World Book Encyclopedia*. 22 v.
 2. *Encyclopedia Americana*. 30 v.
 3. *Encyclopaedia Britannica*. 32 v.
 4. *Academic American Encyclopedia*. 21 v.
 5. *Hispanica*. 18 v. (Ref. Bookstack #9)
- Encyclopedias in French, German, and Italian: in book stacks on level 4.

SPECIALIZED ENCYCLOPEDIAS (listed by call number, except for the first four sets)

6. *International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences*. 18 v. (on table 1 in Reference Center)
7. *New Catholic Encyclopedia*. 16 v. (on table 1)
8. *Encyclopedia Judaica*. 16 v. (on table 1)
9. *McGraw-Hill Encyclopedia of Science and Technology*. 20 v. (on table 1)
10. *International Encyclopedia of Communications*. 4 v. (R 001.51 In8b)
11. *Encyclopedia of Computers and Computer History*. 2 v. (R 004.03 En19ro)
12. *Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. 8 v., supp. (R103 En19)
13. *Encyclopedia of the Unexplained*. (R 133.03 C315e)
14. *Encyclopedia of Witchcraft and Demonology*. (R 133.403 R538e)
15. *The Corsini Encyclopedia of Psychology and Behavioral Science*. 4 v. (R 150.3 C818e3)
16. *Encyclopedia of Psychology*. 8 v. (R150.3 En 19k)
17. *Gale Encyclopedia of Childhood & Adolescence*. (R 155.4 G131ec)
18. *Encyclopedia of Stress*. 3 v. (R 155.9 En19f)
19. *Encyclopedia of Bioethics*. 5 v. (R 174.2 En19r)
20. *Encyclopedia of Religion*. 16 v. (R 200.3 En19e)
21. *Mythology of All Races*. 13 v. (R 291 M999g)
22. *Encyclopedia of the American Religious Experience*. 3 v. (R 291.0973 En19L)
23. *The Encyclopedia of Judaism*. 3 v. (R 296.03 En19n)
24. *Encyclopedia of Sociology*. 5 v. (R 301.03 En15b2)
25. *Macmillan Encyclopedia of World Slavery*. 2 v. (R 301.4493 M228f)
26. *Encyclopedia of Communication and Information*. 3 v. (R 302.203 En19s)
27. *The Social Science Encyclopedia*. (R 303 So13k2)
28. *Violence in America : an Encyclopedia*. 3 v. (R 303.6 V812g)
29. *Encyclopedia of World Terrorism*. 3 v. (R 303.625 En19c)
30. *Women's Studies Encyclopedia*. 3 v. (R 305.403 W84t 1999)
31. *Encyclopedia of the Peoples of the World*. (R 305.8 En19g)
32. *Gale Encyclopedia of Multicultural America*. 3 v. (R 305.8 G131v2)
33. *Harvard Encyclopedia of American Ethnic Groups*. (R 305.8 H261t)
34. *Racial and Ethnic Relations in America*. 3 v. (R 305.8 R115b)

35. *Worldmark Encyclopedia of Cultures and Daily Life*. 4 v. (R 305.8 W893c)
36. *Encyclopedia of Cultural Anthropology*. 4 V. (R 305.803 En19L)
37. *Reference Library of Asian America*. 3 v. (R 305.895 R259as)
38. *Encyclopedia of African-American Civil Rights*. (R 305.896 En19a)
39. *Encyclopedia of Black America*. (R 305.896 En19L)
40. *Countries and their Cultures*. v. 4 (R 306.03 C832e)
41. *Encyclopedia of American Social History*. 3 v. (R 306.09 En19c)
42. *St. James Encyclopedia of Popular Culture*. 5 v. (R 306.4 St1s)
43. *The Encyclopedia of Civil Rights in America*. 3 v. (R 323.1 En19s)
44. *Encyclopedia of American Foreign Policy*. 3v. (R 327.73 En19d)
45. *Encyclopedia of Economics*. (R 330.03 En19g)
46. *Legal Systems of the World*. 4 v. (R 340.03 L522k)
47. *Encyclopedia of the American Constitution*. 5 v. (R 342.73 En19L2)
48. *Witkin, Summary of California Law*. 13 v. (R 345.32 W78s9)
49. *West's Encyclopedia of American Law*. 12 v. (R 348.73 W529w)
50. *Magill's Legal Guide*. 3 v. (R 349.73 M272h)
51. *Encyclopedia of the United States Cabinet*. 3 v. (R 352.24 G914e)
52. *Encyclopedia of social work*. 3 v. (R 361.003 En19e)
53. *Encyclopedia of Public Health*. 4 v. (R 362.103 En19b)
54. *Encyclopedia of Drugs, Alcohol, & Addictive Behavior*. 4 v. (R 362.29 En19c2)
55. *Encyclopedia of Drug Abuse*. (R 362.29 Ob6e)
56. *Encyclopedia of Forensic Sciences*. 3 v. (R 363.2503 En19s)
57. *Censorship: A World Encyclopedia*. 4 v. (R 363.31 C332j)
58. *Encyclopedia of Global Change*. 2 v. (R 363.7 En19g)
59. *Encyclopedia of Environmental Issues*. 3 v. (R 363.7 En19s)
60. *The Wiley Encyclopedia of Environmental Pollution and Cleanup*. 2 v. (R 363.7 W648m)
61. *Encyclopedia of Crime and Punishment*. 4 v. (R 364.03 En19L)
62. *Encyclopedia of American Crime*. (R 364.03 Si21e)
63. *Encyclopedia of Genocide*. 2 v. (R 364.151 En19c)
64. *Encyclopedia of Education*. 8 v. (R 370.3 En19d2)
65. *Encyclopedia of Educational Research*. 4 v. (R 370.78 En19L)
66. *Encyclopedia of Careers and Vocational Guidance*. 4 v. (R 371.425 En19c)
67. *Encyclopedia of World Costume*. (R 391.003 Y25e)
68. *Encyclopedia of Special Education*. 3 v. (R 371.903 En19r2)
69. *Gale Encyclopedia of Science*. 6 v. (R 503 G131g2)
70. *Prentice-Hall Encyclopedia of Mathematics*. (R 510.3 P918w)
71. *Astronomy Encyclopedia*. (R 520.3 As89m 2002)
72. *Thewlis, Encyclopedic Dictionary of Physics*. 9 v. (R 530.3 T344)
73. *McGraw-Hill Encyclopedia of the Geological Sciences*. (R 550.3 M178L)
74. *Grzimek's Animal Life Encyclopedia*. 14 v. (R 591 G929g2)
75. *Gale Encyclopedia of Nursing and Allied Health*. 5 v. (R 610.73 G131k)
76. *Gale Encyclopedia of Medicine*. 5 v. (616 G131o2)
77. *Complete Guide to Your Children's Health*. (R 618.92 K849a)
78. *Encyclopedia of Electronics*. (R 621.381 En19g2)
79. *Encyclopedia of Horticulture*. 10 v. (R 635.9 Ev27n)
80. *Child Care Encyclopedia*. (R 649.1 L468c)
81. *Encyclopedia of Management*. (R658.03 H514e3)
82. *Encyclopedia of Textiles*. (R 677.03 Am35e2)
83. *Encyclopedia of Toys*. (R 688.72 K58e)
84. *Encyclopedia of World Art*. 17 v. (R 703 En19c)
85. *Encyclopedia of Crafts*. 3 v. (R 745.03 En19t)

86. *Encyclopedia of Furniture.* (R 749.03 Ar67e3)
87. *The Focal Encyclopedia of Photography.* (R 770.3 F681e3)
88. *New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians.* 29 v. (R 780.3 N42g2)
89. *Motion Picture Guide.* 12 v. (R 791.4 N174m)
90. *Film Encyclopedia.* (R 791.4303 K159f)
91. *Scarne's Encyclopedia of Games.* (R 795.03 Sca74s)
92. *Benet's Reader's Encyclopedia.* (R 809 B435r4)
93. *McGraw-Hill Encyclopedia of World Drama.* 5 v. (R 809.2 M178m2)
94. *New Illustrated Encyclopedia of World History.* 2 v. (R 902.02 L262n)
95. *Worldmark Encyclopedia of the Nations.* 6v. (R 910.3 W893e10)
96. *Encyclopedia of Asian History.* 4 v. (R 950 En19e)
97. *Cambridge Encyclopedia of Africa.* (R 960.03 C143o)
98. *Dictionary of American History.* 8v. (R 973.03 D561k3)

GENERAL DICTIONARIES

English, unabridged:

99. *Merriam-Webster Third New International Dictionary.* (North wall)

English, abridged:

100. *American Heritage Dictionary.* (R 423 Am35m)
101. *Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary.* (R 423 W395n)
102. *Webster's New World Dictionary.* (R 423 W395new)

FOREIGN LANGUAGE DICTIONARIES: See call numbers: R 430 – R 499.

SPECIALIZED DICTIONARIES (listed by call number, except for the first two sets)

103. *Oxford English Dictionary.* ("OED") 20 v., supplements (in bookcase near table 2)
104. *Dictionary of the History of Ideas.* 5 v. (on table 1)
105. *Encyclopedic Dictionary of Psychology.* (R 150.3 H235e)
106. *Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible.* 4 v. (R 220.3 In8d)
107. *American Political Dictionary.* (R 320.3 P693a)
108. *The New Palgrave: A Dictionary of Economics.* 4 V. (R 330.03 N471e)
109. *Black's Law Dictionary.* (R 340.3 B561L7)
110. *Dictionary of Occupational Titles.* ("DOT") 2 v. (R 371.425 Un3d4)
111. *Funk and Wagnalls Standard Dictionary of Folklore, Mythology, and Legend.* (R 398.03 F963s72)
112. *American Sign Language* (R 419.03 St45au) (Reference Reserve)
113. Kenyon and Knott, *Pronouncing Dictionary of American English.* (R 421.5 K426p4)
114. *Harper Dictionary of Foreign Terms.* (R 422.4 M449h3)
115. Craigie, *Dictionary of American English on Historical Principles.* 4 v. (R 423 C844d)
116. *The New Fowler's Modern English Usage.* (R 423 F829n3)
117. *Bartlett's Roget's Thesaurus.* (R 423.1 B284e)
118. *Bernstein's Reverse Dictionary.* (R 423.1 B458b2)
119. *Facts on File Visual Dictionary.* (R 424 C81f)
120. *Wood's New World Unabridged Rhyming Dictionary.* (R 426.6 W85w)
121. *New Dictionary of American Slang.* (R 427 W488d86)
122. *Harper Dictionary of Contemporary Usage.* (R 428 M834h2)
123. *Mathematics Dictionary.* (R 510.3 J233m)
124. *Dictionary of Life Sciences.* (R 574.0321 M363d2)
125. *Dorland's Illustrated Medical Dictionary.* (R 610.3 D734i29)
126. *Hortus Third.* (R 630.3 B153h3)
127. *The Dictionary of Art.* 34 v. (R 703 D561g)
128. *Dictionary of Architecture and Construction.* (R 720.3 H24d2)

SPECIALIZED DICTIONARIES (continued)

129. *Dictionary of the Decorative Arts*. (R 740.3 F629d)
130. *The New Harvard Dictionary of Music*. (R 780.3 G158h)
131. *International Dictionary of Films and Filmmakers*. 4 v. (R 791.4303 In8s3)
132. *Allusions—Cultural, Literary, Biblical, and Historical*. (R 803 AL58u)
133. *Brewer's Dictionary of Phrase and Fable*. (R 803 B758d16)
134. *Dictionary of Fictional Characters*. (R 809.92 F877d)
135. *Dictionary of Imaginary Places*. (R 809.933 M314d)
136. *Dictionary of Mexican American History*. (R 973.0468 M478d)
137. *Dictionary of Asian American History*. (R 973.0495 D561k)

BIBLIOGRAPHIES

138. *Guide to Reference Books*. (R 011.02 B184g11)
139. *Katz, Magazines for Libraries*. (R 016.05 K159m)
140. *Reader's Adviser*. 6 v. (R 016 R277r)

ALMANACS and STATISTICAL WORKS

141. *Guinness Book of World Records*. (R 032 G948gu) (Reference Reserve)
142. *The African American Almanac*. (R 305.896 Af83g9)
143. *The Hispanic-American Almanac*. (R 305.868 H625g3)
144. *Statesman's Yearbook*. (R 310 St29)
145. *World Almanac and Book of Facts*. (R 310 W893)
146. *Statistical Abstract of the United States*. (R 317 Un3)
147. *Historical Statistics of the United States*. 2 v. (R 317 Un3hs75)
148. *Almanac of American Politics*. (R 320.973 AL62a)
149. *Congressional Quarterly Almanac*. Annual vols. (R 328.73 C76a)
150. *Weather Almanac*. (R 551.69 R838w)
151. *International Motion Picture Almanac*. (R 791.4 In8m)
152. *International Television and Video Almanac*. (R 791.45 In8t)

ATLASES and GAZETTEERS

153. *Rand McNally Commercial Atlas and Marketing Guide*. (on atlas stand near windows)
154. *National Geographic Atlas of the World*. (on atlas stand near windows)
155. *The Times Atlas of the World*. (on atlas stand near windows)
156. *World Atlas of the Oceans*. (R 551.46 W893L)
157. *The Cambridge Atlas of Astronomy*. (R 523 G762c)
158. *Shepherd's Historical Atlas*. (R 911 Sh48h)
159. *Rand McNally Road Atlas*. (R 912.7 R152r)
160. *The Columbia Gazetteer of the World*. 3 v. (R 910.3 C723L)
161. *Atlas of the World's Religions*. (R 912.2 Sm28a)

BIOGRAPHICAL WORKS (listed alphabetically by title)

162. *Abridged Biography and Genealogy Master Index*. 3 v. (R 920 Ab87m2)
163. *American Writers*. 4 v., supplements (R 920.81 Am35u)
164. *Baker's Biographical Dictionary of Musicians*. (R 920.78 B177b9)
165. *Biographical Encyclopaedia and Who's Who of the American Theatre*. (R 920 R448b)
166. *Biography Index*. (R 920.016 B52i)
167. *Contemporary Artists*. (R 920.7 C767n)
168. *Contemporary Authors*. Over 300 vols. (R 920.8 C767c67)
169. *Contemporary Dramatists*. (R 920.822 V786c)

BIOGRAPHICAL WORKS (continued)

170. *Contemporary Novelists*. (R 920.823 V786c)
171. *Contemporary Poets*. (R 920.821 C767m)
172. *Current Biography*. Annual vols. (R 920 C936)
173. *Dictionary of American Biography*. (“DAB”) 12 v., supplements (R 920.973 D561a2)
174. *Dictionary of Scientific Biography*. 18 v. (R 920.5 D561s)
175. *Encyclopedia of World Biography*. 17 v. (on table 1)
176. *Great Lives from History, American Series*. 5 v. (R 920.973 G798m)
177. *Hispanic Writers*. (R 920.81 H652c)
178. *International Dictionary of 20th Century Biography*. (R 920 V597i)
179. *Merriam-Webster's Biographical Dictionary*. (R 920.02 M551b)
180. *Notable American Women, 1607-1950*. 3 v. (R 920.973 N843a)
181. *Who's Who in America*. (R 920.973 W62a)
182. *Who Was Who in America*. (R 920.973 W622a)
183. *World Philosophers and Their Works*. 3v. (R 109 W893r)

PLOT SUMMARIES and LITERARY CRITICISM

184. *Masterplots*. 12 v. (R 808.33 M272mk)
185. *Survey of Contemporary Literature*. 7 v. (R 808.33 M272s)
186. *Contemporary Literary Criticism*. (“CLC”) Over 160 vols. (on table 2)
187. *Black Literature Criticism*. (“BLC”) 3 v., plus supplements (on table 2)
188. *Hispanic Literature Criticism*. (“HLC”) (R 860.9 H162k)
189. *Native North American Literature*. (“NNAL”) (R 809.897 N213n)
190. *World Literature Criticism*. (“WLC”) 6 v., plus supplements (on table 2)
191. *Drama Criticism*. (“DC”) Over 20 vols. (R 809.2 D79g)
192. *Poetry Criticism*. (“PC”) Over 55 vols. (R 808.13 P752g)
193. *Short Story Criticism*. (“SSC”) Over 70 vols. (R 808.34 Sh81g)

QUOTATIONS

194. *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*. (R 808.8 B284f17)
195. *Oxford Dictionary of Quotations*. (R 808.8 Ox2d4)
196. Stevenson, *Home Book of Quotations*. (R 808.8 St48h10)

INDEXES and CONCORDANCES

197. *Book Review Digest*. Annual vols. (on table 3)
198. *Granger's Index to Poetry*. (R 808.13 G765i11)
199. *Play Index*. 9 v. (R 808.23 W52p)
200. *Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature*. Over 60 vols. (North wall)
201. *Harvard Concordance to Shakespeare*. (R 822.33 Sp37h)
202. *Nelson's Complete Concordance of the Revised Version of the Bible*. (R 220.2 EL59n)

HANDBOOKS and MANUALS (listed by call number)

203. *Handbook of Child Psychology*. 4 v. (R 155.4 H191d5)
204. *Handbook of Denominations in the United States*. (R 280.0973 M461h11)
205. Tripp, *Crowell's Handbook of Classical Mythology*. (R 292 T737c)
206. *Handbook of Hispanic Cultures in the United States*. 4 v. (R 305.868 H191k)
207. *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised..* (R 328.1 R54r)
208. *A Financial History of the United States*. 3 v. (R 332.0973 M341f)
209. *Barron's Finance and Investment Handbook*. (R 332.678 D758b)
210. *Hoover's Handbook of American Business*. 2 v. (R 338.7 H767hb)

HANDBOOKS and MANUALS (continued)

211. *Hoover's Handbook of World Business*. (R 338.7 H767hw)
212. *The Constitution and Its Amendments*. 4 v. (R 342.73 C766n)
213. *U.S. Government Manual*. (R 353 Un3g)
214. *Occupational Outlook Handbook*. (R 371.425 Oc1o)
215. *College Blue Book*. 6 v. (R 378 C686b)
216. *Scholarships, Fellowships, and Loans*. (R 378.34 Sch64s)
217. *Four-Year Colleges*. (R 378.73 P442a)
218. *Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue*. 5 v. (R 383.2 Sco86)
219. *Chase's Calendar of Events*. (R 394.26 C386c)
220. *Emily Post's Etiquette*. (R 395 P845e16)
221. *NBC Handbook of Pronunciation*. (R 421.5 B432n4)
222. *Field Guide to the Stars and Planets*. (R 523 M529f83)
223. *CRC Handbook of Chemistry and Physics*. (R 540 H191c)
224. *Audubon Handbook of Western Birds*. (R 598.2978 F241w)
225. *Merck Manual*. (R 615.02 M537m) (Reference Reserve)
226. *Physician's Desk Reference*. ("PDR") (R 615.11 P569d) (Reference Reserve)
227. *Magill's Medical Guide*. 3. v. (R 616 M272c2)
228. *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*. ("DSM")
(R 616.8907 Am35d4) (Reference Reserve)
229. *Chilton's Auto Service Manual*. (R 629.2 C439a)
230. *McGraw-Hill Handbook of Business Letters*. (R 651.75 P752m)
231. *Artist's Handbook*. (R 703 Sm64a)
232. *Architectural Guidebook to Los Angeles*. (R 720.9794 G264Lo)
233. *Halliwel's Film and Video Guide*. (R 791.43 H157h)
234. *Oxford Companion to the Theatre*. (R 792.03 H256o)
235. *Handbook to Literature*. (R 803 H731h8)
236. *Macmillan Handbook of English*. (R 808 K5472m)
237. *MLA Style Manual and Guide to Scholarly Publishing*. (R 808.02 M72g2)
238. *Turabian, Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. (R 808.02 T84m6)
239. *Hart, Oxford Companion to American Literature*. (R 810.3 H251o5)
240. *Chicano Literature*. (R 810.9 C432m)
241. *Cambridge Guide to English Literature*. (R 820.9 C1442s)
242. *Handbook of Latin American Literature*. (R 860.9 H191f)
243. *South American Handbook*. (R 918 So87)
244. *Hart, Companion to California*. (R 979.4 H251c)

DIRECTORIES

245. *Encyclopedia of Associations*. 3 v. (R 061.3 G131e)
246. *Artist's & Graphic Designer's Market*. (R 706.88 Ar75w)
247. *Los Angeles County Social Service Rainbow Resource Directory*. (R 360 R431s)
248. *Official Congressional Directory*. (R 328 Un3)
249. *Southern California Business Directory and Buyers Guide*. (R 650.65 L896b)
250. *Ulrich's International Periodicals Directory*. 2 v. (R 016.05 UL7p)
251. *Writer's Market*. (R 029.6 W9392m)