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Reference \ Social & Behavioral Sciences

Presnell, Jenny L. **The information-literate historian: a guide to research for history students.** Oxford, 2007. 242p bibl index afp ISBN 0195176510 pbk, \$12.95; ISBN 9780195176513 pbk, \$12.95. Reviewed in 2007apr CHOICE.

While teaching a historical research class, Presnell (library, Miami Univ. of Ohio) found that most textbooks "did not really teach students how to search in databases and how to think historically while performing those searches." In this volume she provides that essential integration and much more. The book covers the basics, such as reading online catalog records, using databases, and finding traditional primary sources, but goes further. Throughout the work are excellent listings of basic print and electronic reference materials useful to historians of all eras and geographic locations. This book presents excellent material dealing with the Internet and how to find, use, and evaluate media of all varieties. Each chapter ends with exercises covering the material from that chapter. These could easily be adapted by librarians looking for new and interesting topics for library instructional sections on history. Although written for history students, this handy little volume would make an excellent addition to the toolboxes of librarians who either frequently or only occasionally answer questions relating to history. **Summing Up:** Recommended. Lower-/upper-level undergraduates, graduate students, and professionals/practitioners. -- *S. E. Morris, Purdue University*

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