Using the BU Library’s new catalog:
www.bu.edu/library

The new catalog provides a one-search across our print and online collections.

Some tips:
Try various keywords—this search is based on keyword searching.

Don’t be surprised if you retrieve 1,000’s of results. Rely on the facets (left-hand menu) to narrow your results; by resource, creator, subject, date, etc....

Stop by the African Studies Library...

Our library is much more than just the content on our website...

We have special collections, including:

- “JDocs” & African Docs Collections: collections of African government documents (note: JDocs are not online—accessible in the library via card catalog)
- Rare Books Collection: old & rare books dating back to the 1800’s.
- African Newspapers: in print and on microfilm.
- Approx. 1,500 maps on Africa.
- Pamphlet collection: containing 1,300 newsletters, brochures, reports, etc.

We are here at the library to help you!!

The African Studies Library is located on the 6th floor of Mugar Memorial Library and accessible by the North elevator (closest to the circulation desk).

Call, make an appointment, or stop by!

Hours: Monday to Friday, 9AM—5PM

Email: brestric@bu.edu
(Beth Restrick, African Studies Librarian)

Tel. 617-353-3726
Here are some helpful hints as you begin your research....

* Research something you are genuinely interested in!

* It helps to start broadly. Consult general reference books on Africa to learn about the country and/or ethnic group you research. (Each African country has a unique history which continues to impact it today. Understanding the larger context will help as you narrow your research topic.)

* As you narrow your topic, identify keywords that will help you in your research, such as names, events, African terms.

* Keep in mind there may be variations in keywords. For example: The Fula, Fulani, Fulbe, Peul, and Pullo are all terms used to refer to the same ethnic group in West Africa. The people call themselves Fula. Their Hausa neighbors call them Fulani. The Fula people were colonized by both the French and the English, leading to orthographic variations such as Peul. And just to make things interesting, there are subgroups of the Fula, such as Bororo or Wodaabe which are also used as subject headings.

* When you find a good resource, be sure to note the author (did they write other works on this topic?) and consult the works cited and/or bibliography to see who they relied on for their research.

Here are some useful resources to help you begin....

**Print Resources:**


Use the BU Library Search to access these journals:

* Nka: Journal of Contemporary African Art
* African Arts
* Africa Report
* African Journal of Information & Communication Technology
* African Music
* JALA (African Literature Association) African Literature Association
* CELAAN : Review of the Center for the Studies of the Literatures and Arts of North Africa.
* Research in African literatures
* New contrast [SA Literary Journal]
* Matatu (ejournal on African literatures & societies)
* English in Africa.

**Online Resources:**

“Entertainment News” www.allafrica.com/arts


H-Net Africa (includes reviews, discussions, etc on Africa): http://www.h-net.org/~africa/

**African News Resources:**

Print Newspapers in the African Studies Library:

- Ethiopian Herald
- Ghanaian Times
- Daily News (Tanzania)
- Monitor (Uganda)
- Daily Nation (Kenya)
- New Vision (Uganda)
- Standard (Kenya)
- The Herald (Zimbabwe)

* Older African newspapers on microfilm: www.bu.edu/library/asl/currentevents/microfilm.html

* Search “Press Display” in the BU Library catalog for current newspapers (39 African newspapers).

* Online African newspapers are listed here: www.bu.edu/library/asl/currentevents/onlinenewspapers.htm


* More online sources:
  - www.allafrica.com
  - www.africanews.com
  - www.newsfromafrica.org

Blogs can be useful for beginning research: http://africanliteraturenews.blogspot.com/ http://woyingi.wordpress.com/african-literature/

YouTube is an excellent resource for African music, film, TV shows, news, advertisements, etc.*

Try browsing channels
  - allAfricaglobalmedia
  - VOA TV to Africa
  - Ubuntufilms
  - ScenariosAfrica (film shorts)
  - GHAfricaFilm (Ghanaian film)
  - Vaseni (South African music)
  - LiberiaMusicTv

* consider more than the videos themselves (eg. how many views, where are comments coming from, etc.)