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: Beth Restrick, brestric@bu.edu
      Gabe Adugna, ga35@bu.edu
      Rachel Dwyer, rdwyer@bu.edu

Tel. 617-353-3726

http://www.bu.edu/library/african-studies

Using the BU Libraries Search:
www.bu.edu/library

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

Some tips:

Use your Kerberos log in to access your e-shelf and save journal articles and book titles:

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

Don’t be surprised if you retrieve 1,000’s of results. “Refine your search” (left-hand menu) allows you to narrow your results; by resource, creator, subject, date, etc.

You can organize them in folders and even export them to Refworks to generate bibliographies:

AH 527 C1: Morocco & Zanzibar
Arts of Global Africa

Taken from a painting by Nigerien Tuareg artist, Rissa Ixa
Photo by John Hutchison, BU African Studies Library
Flickr Collection: Niger.Hutchison.RissaIxa.035
As you begin your research...

Keep in mind that:
*Resources are often rare or difficult to locate.
*Resources may exist, but in other languages, such as French, German, Swahili, Arabic, etc.
*Information may be biased depending on who the author/publisher is.

As you begin using the BU Libraries Search, here are some helpful hints:

* Log in to the catalog with your Kerberos password. Logging in will enable you to access materials from the start. You can also select and save citations to your “e-shelf”. The e-shelf allows you to work with several items at a time, printing them, emailing them, or sending them to RefWorks. Logged in, you can save items permanently and organize them in folders.

* Keep in mind that not ALL of our 45,000+ ejournals are indexed at the article level in the BU Libraries Search. Research and subject guides on the website list relevant databases and journals. You can also search/browse A-Z listings of both the databases and ejournal titles.

* Can’t find a book you are looking for and think we should have?
BU WorldCat Local (http://bu.worldcat.org/) will allow you to find books and other items held by other libraries, both nearby and across the country. You can then request the books using Interlibrary Borrowing. Note: You can use Worldcat.org as an alternative to find resources.

You can recommend that we purchase a title, (link provided on the top library page).

* For more tips on searching BU Libraries Search, visit:
http://www.bu.edu/library/help/bu-libraries-search/

Some research tips as you decide a topic.

* Keep in mind name changes/variations in spelling.
For example:
Tanganyika > Tanzania
Moroc = Morocco
Tuareg / Touareg /Berber /Imazighen

Use all variations in your BU Libraries Search, as you may uncover different results!

* Think of / Look for any associated terms or events.
* It is good to be specific.
For example, searching just Morocco yields 46,000+ results. A more specific search, Moroccan art yields 2,300+ results and Moroccan art textiles yields 39 results. Try to think of variations on keywords to capture different results.

Helpful Collections in the Library.

* African Pamphlet Collection
You will not find the pamphlet collection in the online catalog, but you are welcome to browse through the boxes. Known as “gray literature”, this collection contains tourists guides, magazines, brochures, maps, newsletters, etc.

* Newspapers serve as a valuable record of events and social issues of a country or a city. They also capture the concerns and sentiments of residents. Advertisements offer insight into services available.

Newspapers on Microfilm include:

Newspaper Databases:
* African Newspapers 1800-1922
Over 40 19-20th-century African newspapers.

Provides today’s edition of 39 African newspapers.

NOTE: useful resources may be located throughout the BU Libraries, including: Mugar Library, African Studies Library, Theology Library, the Pappas Law Library, Pardee Management Library, etc.

Art Databases

Grove Art Online: Photography: with entries for almost 1,000 international photographers.

Artstor: Browse across thousands of images, including works of art, photography, architecture, etc. You may browse by country.

Our Flickr site (African Studies Library BU) also has images of some Tuareg art from Niger.

Locating Resources Online:

Take advantage of images and video. The internet is a rich repository of resources...

Internet Archive www.archive.org
Provides access to many old travel accounts and memoirs, available as e-books. Film, audio, images are also available. (Note: Many of the titles in our Rare Books Collection have been digitized and are available on this site.)

Africa South of the Sahara Guide to Art:

Artists’ websites:
Mounir Fatmi: http://www.mounirfatmi.com/
Brief bios and artwork: http://www.the-nala-project.com/artists/artists-from-zanzibar/

Museum/Art Gallery exhibits online:
Hassan Hajjaj: http://www.taymourgrahne.com/artists/hassan-hajjaj

Look for information in seemingly unlikely places...
Increasingly archives are using sites like Flickr.com to display digital photo collections, or even YouTube for film.

Example: Zanzibar Henna Art (YouTube)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T-ze3TDIGRE

NOTE: When researching online, always consider the source and look for citations and bibliographies in order to be as accurate as possible. Also consider how you plan to use what you find.