

# A Guide to the Boston University Libraries' African Studies Library for Non-BU Users

## Access to the Boston University Libraries (Academic year 2020-21)

All Boston University Libraries services are online for the fall and spring semesters. Per University campus protocols, access to the physical libraries is currently limited to BU students, faculty, and staff who are in COVID testing categories 1, 2, or 3 and are up to date with their testing. *Note: These current measures may change in the new 2021-22 academic year.*

You can find the latest updates about library access here:

<http://www.bu.edu/library/help/back-2-bu-libraries-updates/>

**BU Library Catalog:** <http://www.bu.edu/library/>

*Note: while access to our physical materials is currently limited, you can still search our catalog to locate:*

- Open Access materials (be sure to limit your search results to “open access” by clicking on the filter in the menu to the right.
- Titles you can request through your own institutional or public library’s interlibrary loan department.

**Research Guides:** <https://www.bu.edu/library/african-studies/research/guides/>

These guides are created for Boston University users, but they are a helpful way to find subject-specific content. Most guides include a section for resources available on the internet. Guides to open access content include: [African Newspapers by Country](#) and [Africana Collections Online](#)

## Internet Sources

[Africa South of the Sahara \(Stanford\)](#)

an annotated directory to select internet resources about Sub-Saharan Africa

## Open Access Sources for Journals

[Directory of Open Access Journals](#)

[African Journals Online \(Open Access titles\)](#)

[Open Access African Journal Archive \(Sabinet\)](#)

## Open Access Sources for Books

Internet Archive <https://archive.org/>

Project Gutenberg <https://www.gutenberg.org/>

HathiTrust: <https://www.hathitrust.org/>

**Have a question?  
We are happy to help!**

Visit the [main library site](#) to chat online with a librarian, or contact us directly by email: [asl@bu.edu](mailto:asl@bu.edu)  
phone: 617-353-3726

**Evaluating Sources:** specific questions to ask:

- ▶ What is this? Can you determine its purpose?
- ▶ Can you tell who wrote it? What are their credentials?
- ▶ Who is the intended audience?
- ▶ Does it serve as a primary or secondary source? How will you use it?
- ▶ If a secondary resource, can you determine if it was peer-reviewed?