REFERENCE SOURCES – Use reference sources for background information, broad overviews and summaries. The reference collection includes general and subject dictionaries and encyclopedias, biographies, directories, almanacs, atlases, etc. Many also contain bibliographies for further research. Reference books cannot be checked out from the library but may be photocopied.

- Dictionary of Native American literature
  Ref PM155 .D53 1994
- Dictionary of Native American mythology
  Ref E98.R3 G46 1992
- Japanese American internment during World War II : a history and reference guide
  Ref D769.8.A6 N4 2002
- Encyclopedia of American Indian History
  Ref E77.E48 2008
- Encyclopedia of the American West
  Ref F591.E485 1996
- The Encyclopedia of North American Indians
  Ref E76.2.E53 1997
- Encyclopedia Latina : history, culture, and society in the United States
  Ref E184.S75 E587 2005
- The Greenwood Encyclopedia of African American Literature
  Ref PS153.N5 G73 2005
- Native American writers of the United States
  Ref PS153.I52 N39 1997
- Native North American literature
  Ref PS508.I5 N38 1994
- The New Encyclopedia of the American West
  Ref F591.N46 1998
- The Oxford Companion to African American Literature
  Ref PS153.N5 O96 1997
- The Oxford Encyclopedia of Latinos and Latinas in the United States
  Ref E184.S75 O97 2005

BOOKS & AUDIOVISUALS – Use the library catalog to find materials in the library. The catalog will show all the books and audiovisual materials both LPC Library and Chabot library own. You can search for a book or video by the author, title, subject, or keyword. A subject search allows you to find books about a topic or a person. In power search you may also LIMIT your search in many ways, for instance by type, “DVD” or type, “video” to find only DVDs or videos.

Examples of keywords to use when searching the online catalog:

African American Cowboys
African American Literature
Americanization
Aztlán
Black Cowboys
Calamity Jane
California Missions
Curanderismo
Japanese Internment WWII
Literature American West
La Raza
Western Heroines

Useful Browsing Areas (Call Numbers):
D769  History (General) World War II
F590-596  History of America (The West)
PS153  American Literature (Ethnic Studies)
PS561  American Literature (Western)
PS591  American Poetry

Selected Resource Titles at LPC: General Resources
African American literary criticism, 1773 to 2000 by Hazel Arnett Ervin
New immigrant literatures in the United States: a source book to our multicultural literary heritage by Alpana Sharma Knippling
PS153.M56 N475 1996
The world next door: South Asian American literature and the idea of America by Rajini Srikanth
PS153.S68 S73 2004
Circle of women: an anthology of contemporary western women writers by Kim Barnes
PS561.C57 2001
Crazy Woman Creek: women rewrite the American West by Gaydell M. Collier
PS561.C83 2004
The first west: writing from the American frontier 1776-1860
PS561.F57 2002
Ed. Edward Watts & David Rachels
Literature of the American West: a cultural approach by Greg Lyons
PS561.L59 2003
Asian American poetry: the next generation Ed. Victoria Chang
PS591.A76 A83 2004
Every shut eye ain’t asleepe: an anthology of poetry by African Americans since 1945
Ed. Michael S. Harper
PS591.N4 E94 1994
Selected Resource Titles at LPC: Calamity Jane; Western Heroine

*Calamity Jane: the woman and the legend* by James D. McLaird. F594.C2 M34 2005


*Cowgirls* by Candace Sherk Savage F596.S234 1996


*Pioneer women: the lives of women on the frontier* by Linda S. Peavy HQ1438.W4 P43 1996

*Women of the West* by Silvia Anne Sheafer HQ1412.S52 1996

*Buffalo Girls* by Larry McMurtry PS3563.A319 B84 1991

*The best of the real west* DVD F591 B47 2000

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Selected Resource Titles at LPC: Ramona and the California Missions

*Ramona: a story* by Helen Jackson PS2107.R2

*Glimpses of California and the missions* by Helen Hunt Jackson PS2107.R3 1912

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Selected Resource Titles at LPC & Chabot: Aztlan, La Raza, Resistance to Americanization

*Fiesta in Aztlan: anthology of Chicano poetry* PS591.M49 F5

*After Aztlan: Latino poets of the nineties* PS591.H58 A69 1992

*Viva la raza: readings on Mexican Americans* by Julian Nava (Chabot) E184.M5 .N32

*Viva la raza! The struggle of the Mexican-American people* by Elizabeth Sutherland Martinez and Enriqueta Longeaux y Vazquez (Chabot) E184.M5 M378

*Hispanics in the American West* by Jorge Iber and Arnoldo De León F596.3 .S75 I24 2006

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Selected Resource Titles at LPC & Chabot: Black Cowboys and Black Seminoles

*The Black Cowboys* by Gina DeAngelis (Chabot) F596.D36 1997

*The Black West [videorecording]* MV 22090


*The Negro cowboys* by Philip Durham and Everett L. Jones (Chabot) F596.D8

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Selected Resource Titles at LPC: Japanese Internment in WWII

*In good conscience: supporting Japanese Americans during the internment* by Shizue Seigel D769.8 .A6 S45 2006


*What did the internment of Japanese Americans mean?* By Alice Yang Murray D769.83A6 W53 2000

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Selected Resource Titles at LPC & Chabot: Curandera in Latino Culture

*Curanderismo, Mexican American folk healing* by Robert T. Trotter GR111.M49 T76 1997

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The Latina / Latino reference materials noted at the top of the page provide information on this topic. Additional resources are available on this topic through other sources. See “Other Resources” below.

PERIODICALS & Electronic Resources – Periodicals provide in-depth analyses of events and trends, research studies on particular subjects, and professional literature. Las Positas College subscribes to several excellent journals as well as some popular magazines that may report on research that is of interest to you. Use the LPC Library Catalog to find the appropriate magazines available in the Library.

- Suggestion: Use Power Search. For example: American History as "word or phrase." Limit your search in the drop down list for "library" to Las Positas College and in "Type" to Periodical.

In addition, you may want to find articles by using an electronic print resource. These databases can be accessed in the LPC Library or from home at LPC Library Homepage. Select either “Academic Search Premier” or “Literature Resource Center” to access the databases listed below:

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Las Positas College Library
Donna Scanlon, Reference Librarian

Research Guide: Literature of the American West (Eng 44) 1/22/2009
**History Reference Center (EBSCO)** – contains thousands of citations and full-text articles on history. The database features cover-to-cover full text for more than 650 historical encyclopedias and other non-fiction books. The database also includes full text for more than 50 leading history periodicals.

- Suggestion: Do a keyword search for "Calamity Jane" or type in one of the topics from “Examples of keywords” above.

**Literature Resource Center** – contains thousands of citations and full-text articles of the newspapers, magazines and journals of the ethnic, minority and native press.

- Suggestion: Do a keyword search for "Aztlan" or type in one of the topics from Examples of keywords above or an author.

**OTHER RESOURCES** – Other libraries often carry additional materials on your topic not available through the Las Positas or Chabot libraries. You may need a library card for the participating library to access these resources. Library cards are easy to obtain and some libraries allow you to apply for a card online (https://www.livermore.lib.ca.us/selfreg-S7). Here are a few resources located in other libraries:

* African Americans on the western frontier (E-Book available through the Livermore Public Library (http://www.livermore.lib.ca.us/). You will need a Livermore Public Library card to access this resource online.)

**Titles available through Link+:** http://csul.iii.com/

Link+ is a consortium of libraries throughout the State of California that loan their books to participating libraries. Local libraries that participate in Link+ are Livermore, Pleasanton, and Alameda County (Dublin). The following titles may be requested through Link+:

- **Cowboys** by Robert H. Miller. Examines the contributions Black cowboys have made to this country and to the legacy of the West, focusing on the lives of Nat Love “Dead Wood Dick”, Mary Fields, Cherokee Bill, Willie Kennard, and Bill Pickett.
- **Curandera** by Carmen Tafolla; Rolando Hinojosa. Spanish poetry
- **The folk healer : the Mexican-American tradition of curanderismo** by Eliseo Torres
- **Spirituality and curanderismo in Mexican-American culture : a psychospiritual model of conjoint treatment** by Kimberly A. Guajardo.
- **Woman who glows in the dark : a curandera reveals traditional Aztec secrets of physical and spiritual health** by Elena Avila with Joy Parker.

**INTERNET RESOURCES** – You may want to explore some Internet resources to supplement or enhance your research. Always be cautious of information you find on the Web since the quality of sources varies tremendously on the Internet. It is always a good idea to check the information against another source. As with all information resources, whether in print or on the Internet, you evaluate its quality based on the following criteria:

- Accuracy .......................Is it free from mistakes and errors?
- Authority .......................What are the qualifications of the author?
- Objectivity .....................Is there any strong bias?
- Currency .......................Is the information up-to-date?
- Coverage ......................To what extent is the topic explored?

Use the Librarians’ Internet Index (http://www.lii.org).

- Suggestion: Do a keyword search for “Literature American West” or other pertinent terms. Once you find a good site listed, try the subject headings listed below the annotated citation for more information.

Other Internet resources:
- **Wild West History Association:** http://www.wildwesthistory.org/
- **Curanderismo: Folk healing in the Mexican American community** (a bibliography from University of Texas): http://www.lib.utexas.edu/benson/bibnot/bn-101.html
- **California Missions Resource Center:** http://www.missionscalifornia.com/
- Learn California.Org: http://www.learncalifornia.org/default.asp (search on “Ramona”)

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Las Positas College Library
Donna Scanlon, Reference Librarian
Research Guide: Literature of the American West (Eng 44) 1/22/2009
CITATION OF SOURCES – Suggestion: keep printed copies of your sources, or write out all pertinent information on author, title, publisher, date, or Internet address to identify where you got the information. Follow the format recommended by your instructor or ask a librarian to show you a “style manual.” NoodleTools, available from the library website, provides an accurate composer for ALA or MLA citations. There is also a link to instructions for MLA or APA citations on the LPC Library Homepage: Citation Style Guides.

Please ask a reference librarian for help!