GOVT2991 Political Analysis

Library Research Skills

Presented by
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Purpose of the session

To develop effective Research skills using Library resources, including:

- Demonstrate how to find Resources on your topic in the Library’s collections and through Online Resources.

- Identify Primary and Secondary Sources

- Identify how to find
  - Statistical Data
  - News Sources
  - Opinion Polls & Election Data
  - Government Documents
  - Policy Documents
  - Books in Library Catalogue
Primary Sources

What is a Primary Source

– provides a first hand account of an event or time period.

– Often created at the time an event occurred

– Can include resources recorded later. Such as;
  » autobiographies,
  » memoirs
  » oral histories

– Within the Social Sciences Primary Sources can include
  » articles or papers describing experiments
  » studies conducted and written by researchers
Types of Primary Sources

Some types of primary sources include:

- published materials (books, magazine and newspaper articles) written at the particular time
- handwritten documents, such as diaries and journals
- speeches, interviews, letters
- memoirs and autobiographies
- manuscripts
- maps
- laws and court cases
- records of government agencies
- records of organizations
- Numerical data sets such as census figures, opinion polls, surveys or interview transcripts, statistical reports
Secondary Sources

What is a Secondary Source

- Offers an analysis or a restatement of primary sources

- Involves generalisation, synthesis, interpretation, commentary or evaluation.

- Examples include:
  - dictionaries,
  - Encyclopedias
  - textbooks
  - books and articles that interpret or review works
  - biographies,
  - dissertations
Finding Primary Sources

Autobiographies
  – Use Library catalogue – Include “biography” in search

Media Reports
  – Use Library Databases & eResources – (News Services)
  – Use Library Subject Guides – (Government Documents – Australia)

Statistical Reports
  – Use Library Databases & eResources - (Statistics)
  – Use Library Subject Guides – (Statistics Australian)

Opinion Poll data and Election results
  – Use Library Subject Guides - (Statistics Australian) or (Government Documents Australia)

Parliamentary debates & Speeches
  – Use Library Subject Guides – (Government Documents Australia)
Useful Library Web Pages

The following Library Sites will be useful for finding the required materials

– Library Catalogue

– Databases and Electronic Resources
  http://www.library.usyd.edu.au/databases/
  – Government and International Relations
  – News Services
  – Statistics

– Guides
  http://libguides.library.usyd.edu.au/
  - Government Documents - Australia
  - Statistics – Australian
  - Policy Studies

Find all these links on the GOVT2991 Political Analysis Resources page of the Government and International Relations Subject guide
Catalogue Search – Primary Source

Search the Library catalogue

Tony Abbott: a man's man

Availability: DUE 05-06-17
Location: Fisher
Call number: 994.066092 6

Battelines

Availability: DUE 12-06-17
Location: Fisher
Call number: 994.066092 4
Finding statistical data

Go to Database Page – **Statistics**

- **Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)**
  - Online database of the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), containing all standard publications published since 1998 in pdf format

- **ABS TableBuilder**
  - Online tool for creating tables and graphs from ABS survey data – Use either Census TableBuilder or Survey TableBuilder

- **ADA / ICPSR** *(Australian Data Archives) / (Inter-University Symposium for Political and Social Research)*
  - Over 2,000 data sets from Australian and non-Australian studies.

- **OECD iLibrary** *(Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development)*
  - Includes the full text of all OECD publications, as well as a range of OECD databases such as Main Economic Indicators, Main Industrial Indicators, National Accounts, Social Expenditure, Economic Outlook and many others.

- **World Bank Open Data**
  - Includes World Bank Development Indicators: 900 indicators organised in six sections: World View, People, Environment, Economy, States and Markets, and Global Links

- **IMF eLibrary Data**
  - Time series data from the International Monetary Fund. Covers economics and financial indicators for a wide range of countries
Finding News databases

NEWS DATABASES

- **Factiva**
  - Full-text news, commentary, pictures and media transcripts from over 8,000 overseas and Australian news media sources.

- **Australia & New Zealand Newsstream via Proquest**
  - Search a wide range of international and Australian newspapers in ANZ Newsstand, Canadian Newsstand, and Proquest Newsstand. ANZ Newsstand covers Australian and New Zealand newspapers published by Fairfax Australia and News Ltd, AAP newswires and ABC transcripts.

- **Australia/New Zealand Reference Centre Plus (via Ebsco)**
  - Leading Australasian magazines, newspapers, newswires and reference books, including The *Australian Financial Review* (2/5/2014 - present), and Choice. Also includes biographies, an image collection of over 500,000 photographs.

- **TVNews via Informit Online** (September 2007 - 2012)
  - TVNews indexes Australian television news, current affairs programs, and selected documentaries from the free-to-air networks. Links are to the video files and there are no transcripts available

- **Capital Monitor**
  - Parliamentary and legal information from federal and selected state sources. Monitors Bills, Acts, High Court and Tax rulings, elections and budgets. Tracks information by selected popular topics.

See Also Library Guide - [Government Documents – Australia](Media resources & releases)
Finding Opinion Polls & Election Information

- Use the Library Subject Guides to find links to information

- Statistics - Australian (Opinion Poll Data – Australia) page

- Media & Communications (Journalist Toolkit) page: also has information on Opinion Polls including links to some international sites

- Government Documents – Australia
  - Has a page on Elections and Electoral Information including
    - The Australian election portal which provides an entry point to national, state and territory electoral websites.
    - Online & Print References to election related sites and material

Finding Government Documents - 1

Useful Library Subject Guides

  - This guide includes a link to another useful guides and a tutorial called Finding Australian Government Reports

- You may also find Information via
  - Australian Government Entry Point
  - Other Government Entry Points
  - Parlinfo Search
    - [http://parlinfo.aph.gov.au/parlInfo/search/search.w3p;adv=yes]
Parliamentary Debates:

- The verbatim record of parliamentary debates published by the various parliaments is commonly called Hansard. Included are answers to questions, texts or petitions, and the occasional report which has been incorporated in Hansard without being read in parliament.

Parliamentary Reports

- These are documents which have been presented to parliament and ordered to be printed.

Government Reports

- Papers produced by government agencies
- Go to the web site of the relevant government agency and check their menu or page for links to publications
Finding Government Documents - 3

Parliamentary Bills and Acts

- Federal Parliament information on Bills and Acts can be found by searching Parlinfo.

- For State Information look at the State Government Entry points, which for each state are usually www.state.gov.au

- The Capital Monitor Database - Includes extracts from debates, press releases, case information, policy and legislative documents.

- Legislation information can also be found by searching on free Websites such as AustLII - Australasian Legal Information Institute which provides free internet access to Australasian legal materials.) The Federal Register of Legislation & NSW Parliamentary Counsels Office
Finding Policy Documents

– Use the Policy Studies subject guide
  – This guide will assist you to identify
    – Government departments and agencies involved in creating policy
    – sources where policy is published or recorded
    – sources which allow you to trace the history of a specific policy area
    – sources which analyse and discuss policy

Search Parlinfo for policy information

– Media Releases; Parliamentary Debates (the second reading speech of a bill is the major debate of policy issues); Committee Reports; Library Publications; political parties

– Use the websites of political parties to search for policy documents

Finding Policy Document

International

To find policy documents for countries other than Australia

- Search the websites of national governments (or government agencies) to find press releases.

- Use a list of political parties such as [http://www.politicalresources.net/](http://www.politicalresources.net/) to find party policy documents.

- Links are available to some international sites on the Policy Studies guide under the Tab ‘Comparative and Global Policy Issues’
Finding Books in the Online Catalogue

- Go to the Catalogue by clicking on Catalogue tab from the Library's Home Page, or go directly to [http://sydney.edu.au/library](http://sydney.edu.au/library)

- Use keyword to find books on your topic.
- If you wish to search for autobiographies you will need to add the keyword “biography” to your search.
- The library does not use the term autobiography.
- You can also find edited books on your topic by including the term "edited" in your keyword search.
Finding Journal Articles

You can find articles in journals by searching our databases and ejournal collections.

Databases:

- provide access to the content of journals within broad or specific subjects areas
- index articles, essays, conferences papers, websites, book reviews, reports and occasionally book chapters
- sometimes provide full-text versions of articles

Cross Search:

- a simple and fast search engine that searches multiple collections at the same time,
- Searches the library catalogue as well as a variety of bibliographic databases
Further Help

Need further assistance?

Contact your Academic Liaison Librarian

Karen Chilcott (Academic Liaison Librarian)
Level 2, Fisher Library North
The University of Sydney
T: 02 935 17289
E karen.chilcott@sydney.edu.au

Use “Ask us Now” service
http://usyd.libanswers.com/
In Class Demonstrations

- Australian Bureau of Statistics
  - Tablebuilder
- OECD iLibrary
- Australian Data Archive
- Factiva
ABS Statistics – Tablebuilder (1)
ABS Statistics – Tablebuilder (2)

You are currently logged into TableBuilder. To access Census data, open the topics in the left window to display available datasets. There are no predefined tables available in the middle window.

TableBuilder is an online tool for creating your own tables and graphs:
- create tables using variables you select
- select options to display in your table: counts, percentages etc.
- select from categorical variables (e.g., state, age, sex)
- calculate means, medians, and quantiles for continuous variables
- create custom ranges from continuous variables
- create graphs using your customised tables
- save or export your tables using CSV, Excel or SDMX.

The TableBuilder User Guide provides detailed information on how to use TableBuilder. You can use TableBuilder to access microdata including survey data.

For a full list of TableBuilder datasets, see Available microdata.
ABS Statistics – Tablebuilder (3)

![TableBuilder Interface]

### Family composition by Sex of person (2)

**Filters:**
- Default Summation: Persons (Benchmarked weight)
- Wafer: Cell count, $51 \times 3\text{ columns} \times 17\text{ rows} \times 1\text{ wafer}$ total

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sex of person (2)</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Couple family with no children</td>
<td>2,888.3</td>
<td>2,607.3</td>
<td>5,595.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Couple family with children under 15, dependent students and non-dependent children</td>
<td>136.7</td>
<td>101.7</td>
<td>238.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Couple family with children under 15, dependent students and no non-dependent children</td>
<td>658.2</td>
<td>685.3</td>
<td>1,343.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Couple family with children under 15, no dependent students and with non-dependent children</td>
<td>167.0</td>
<td>170.0</td>
<td>337.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Couple family with children under 15, no dependent students and no non-dependent children</td>
<td>2,914.7</td>
<td>2,768.6</td>
<td>5,683.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Couple family with no children under 15, with dependent students and non-dependent children</td>
<td>356.3</td>
<td>304.0</td>
<td>660.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Couple family with no children under 15, with dependent students and no non-dependent children</td>
<td>425.5</td>
<td>304.0</td>
<td>730.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Couple family with no children under 15, no dependent students and with non-dependent children</td>
<td>761.4</td>
<td>658.1</td>
<td>1,419.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One parent family with children under 15, dependent students and non-dependent children</td>
<td>15.4</td>
<td>14.2</td>
<td>29.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One parent family with children under 15, dependent students and no non-dependent children</td>
<td>106.2</td>
<td>152.5</td>
<td>258.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ABS Statistics – Tablebuilder (4)
OECD iLibrary (2)
OECD iLibrary (3)
Welcome to the Australian Data Archive

The Australian Data Archive (ADA) provides a national service for the collection and preservation of digital research data and to make these data available for secondary analysis by academic researchers and other users.

New access arrangements for ADA data

As of October 2015, ADA data is now available free of charge to all users. Please feel free to contact us at ada@anu.edu.au if you have any queries regarding this change.

About ADA

The ADA is comprised of seven sub-archives - Social Science, Historical, Indigenous, Longitudinal, Qualitative, Crime & Justice and International. The archive is managed by the ADA central office based in the ANU Centre for Social Research and Methods at the Australian National University (ANU).

Accessing Data

All visitors to the ADA Data Catalogue can browse and search the catalogue, view study and variable documentation (including frequencies) and download related material (questionnaires, codebooks, etc). Registered users can also analyse and visualise most data online and users who have completed the relevant undertaking form(s) can download entire studies or subsets of variables in a range of formats. For more information, explore the Data Access menu above.

Forthcoming data:

ADA receives data from depositors on a regular basis, which we process, review and publish for research use across Australia and around the world. Current deposits with the archive which are expected to be released soon are detailed on our "Recent Deposits" page. Current deposits in our processing pipeline include:

- The Australian Child Wellbeing Project (Flinders University, University of NSW and Australian Centre for Educational Research)
Welcome to ADA Social Science

ADA Social Science provides a national service for the preservation of and access to data relating to social, political and economic primary facility for the storage of Australian data. ADA Social Science currently holds over 2000 separate datasets from a variety of government and non-government organisations, covering the spectrum of Australian and international social sciences.

ADA Social Science provides access to a variety of forms of data, including survey (unit record) data, census tables and qualitative study content such as interview and focus group materials. ADA Social Science also provides services for the geographical visualisation of data through our GIS visualization facility.

ADA Social Science services include access to thematic data collections, spatial visualisation facilities and a comprehensive catalogue of over 1000 social science unit record and aggregate datasets.

Data themes

ADA Social Science data themes bring together related data resources in the ADA Social Science collections. These include the following:

- Elections and politics
- Public opinion and social attitudes
- Health

Thematic data pages are accessible through the "Data Themes" tab.

Data visualisation

ADA Social Science also provides the capacity for geospatial visualisation of a number of our major data series. Data currently includes...
Australian Data Archive [ADA] (3)
Australian Data Archive [ADA] (4)
Factiva

Search TEXT political attitudes DATE All Dates SOURCE: Australia MORE▼

Free Text Search
Guided Search
Examples

Date In the last 5 years ▼ Duplicates Similar▼

Source ▼
Author ▼
Company ▼
Factiva Expert Search Subject ▼
Industry ▼
Region ▼
Look up ▼
Language ▼
More Options ▼

Political attitudes

Source: Australia

Australia

Surveys/Polls▼

English▼

ABC

Voters want reform
Margot Chneil
733 words
11 November 2014
Australian Broadcasting Corporation Transcripts
ABC News (English)

A survey completed for the Museum of Australian Democracy shows that voters are unhappy with their elected representatives and are hungry for political reform including the right to recall their local MP to face another election.

EMMA ALBERICI, Presenter: Australians are becoming increasingly dissatisfied with the country's political system.

For years now, polls and focus groups have revealed a consistent disenchantment.

Tonight, Lateline can exclusively reveal the results of the most detailed survey yet on political attitudes. Compiled for the Museum of Australian Democracy, it shows that voters give their elected representatives a resounding fail and they're hungry for political reform.
Useful Library Webpages

Government and International Relations: GOVT2991 Political Analysis Resources

GOVT2991 Political Analysis

This page has been provided to assist students studying GOVT2991 Political Analysis to use the library and Internet-based research databases to locate and analyse primary source material on a chosen topic.

Listed below are useful Library subject guides and databases that will assist with this task. Class notes from the Library tutorial in week 5 can be found here:

- Tutorial Powerpoint Presentation
- Tutorial Notes

Policy Studies

The Policy Studies Subject Guide supports research in policy studies with a specific emphasis on Australian Social Policy.

The Guide will help you identify:
- Government departments and agencies involved in creating policy
- sources where policy is published or recorded
- sources which allow you to trace the history of a specific policy area
- sources which analyse and discuss policy

Government Documents - Australia


Media & Communications - Journalist Toolkit

The Media & communications subject guide has a page listing information useful for journalists. The Journalists toolkit provides information & resource links that you may also find useful. Use the drop down menu to find the following tabs:

- Parliamentary & Government Information
- Opinion Polls (including International Polls)

Statistics - Australian

The Statistics - Australian subject guide provides a comprehensive guide to Australian statistical sources.

The Guide will help you identify:
- Key Statistical Sources for Australia
- Databases & Data Archives
- Historical Australian Statistics
- Links to International Statistical sources

Key Database collections

A number of the Library’s Database collections will be useful for searching for resources:

- News Services
- Legal & Parliamentary resources for Social Sciences
- Social & Economic Statistics
- Government & International Relations

Other useful sites include:

- Trove - The National Library of Australia’s discovery portal
- Archived Websites
  - Pandora Web Archive
  - The Wayback Machine
  - Australian Government Web Archive

SAGE Research Methods