Hot Topics

The most current information about popular, controversial, or straight-from-the-headlines subjects will be in daily and weekly publications (printed and online), like newspapers and news magazines.

ONLINE DATABASES

**Pro-Con Sources**

- **CQ Researcher**  In-depth reports on current topics and controversial issues. Includes extensive sources for further information.
- **Issues & Controversies**  Provides factual analysis, with opposing points of view, on controversial topics from 1995 to present.
- **Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center**  This database provides full text from the Opposing Viewpoints books, other reference books, periodicals, primary source documents, magazines, newspapers, websites, and statistics.

**Newspapers**

- **Access World News Research Collection**
- **LexisNexis Academic**  Access to a wide range of news, business, legal, and reference information: full-text articles from hundreds of newspapers and magazines, wire services, and TV and radio broadcasts; cases and laws; business and financial data; medical news.
- **Newspaper Source**  Provides full text of 460+ U.S. and international newspapers, selective full text for 3300+ regional U.S. newspapers, and full-text television and radio news transcripts from CBS, CNN, Fox News, NPR, etc.
- **Nexis Uni**  Full-text articles from hundreds of newspapers and magazines, wire services, and TV and radio broadcasts.

**Magazines**

- **Academic Search Elite**  Articles from leading journals in the sciences, technology, medicine, social sciences, the arts, and many other subjects.
- **LexisNexis Academic**  Access to a wide range of news, business, and legal information: full-text articles from hundreds of newspapers and magazines, wire services, and TV and radio broadcasts; cases and laws; business and financial data.
- **MAS Ultra School Edition**  Access to full text for 500 popular magazines
- **MasterFILE Premier**  A one-stop source for news and periodical articles on a wide range of general interest topics.
- **ProQuest Research Library**  Provides full text for periodicals covering a wide range of subjects. Includes peer-reviewed articles.

**Websites**

- **Almanac of Policy Issues**  [http://www.policyalmanac.org](http://www.policyalmanac.org)  
  "...Provides comprehensive background information and links on major U.S. public policy issues. The Almanac is an independent public service not affiliated with any particular issue or cause. Every effort is made to present all sides of each issue, and to do so in an unbiased, journalistic format..."
- **ProCon.org**  [http://www.procon.org/](http://www.procon.org/)
Presents controversial issues in a straightforward, nonpartisan, primarily pro-con format.

Public Agenda  http://www.publicagenda.org

“Public Agenda is an objective explorer of public opinion and a scrupulously fair minded producer of citizen education materials.” This website’s section “Issue Guides” provide facts and figures, different perspectives and analysis of public attitudes from surveys conducted by Public Agenda and by other respected polling and news organizations.

Videos

Films on Demand: Find thousands of videos on a wide range of topics.

FACT CHECKING SITES:

Evaluate what you read or hear. Check for accuracy, “Fake news,” and hoaxes here:

FactCheck.org
Politifact.com
Snopes.com
Washington Post Fact Checker

PRINTED SOURCES

Newspapers

The Kansas City Star (Library keeps current six weeks of print and on microfilm 1974-2011)
The New York Times (Sunday edition only – and also in microfilm 1969-current)
USA Today (Library keeps current six weeks)
Wall Street Journal (Library keeps current six weeks)

Magazines and Journals

The Atlantic Monthly
The Congressional Digest
Nation
New Republic
Time
Utnrc-Reader

Browse the magazine shelves in Circulation for current issues.
Back issues may be requested at the circulation desk and checked out.

Books
Search for books by author, title, keyword, or subject in the Maple Woods Library online catalog at www.mcckc.edu/library/maple-woods. A link on the library online catalog page connects to the shared library online catalog for MOBIUS, a network of academic libraries in Missouri that includes Maple Woods. The MOBIUS online catalog accesses over 27 million items. Request books online from other libraries at no charge.

**Current Controversies** A series of books which provides information on controversial topics. Enter Current Controversies as a title in the online catalog to bring up a list of individual titles.

**At Issue** A series of books which provides "a range of opinions of various controversial topics." Enter At Issue as a title in the online catalog to bring up a list of individual titles.

**Opposing Viewpoints** A group of books on many different subjects which gives both pro and con articles on the subjects. Look in the online book catalog under Opposing Viewpoints as a title for a list of individual titles.

**Statistical Abstract of the United States** Ref. 317.3 U58s