African-American History
Primary Sources

Primary sources provide firsthand accounts of the past. Examples include letters, photographs, diaries, newspaper accounts, interviews, oral histories, and speeches. Official documents such as laws, court decisions, treaties, party platforms, and constitutions are also primary sources.

ONLINE DATABASES

African-American History Online includes over 800 primary sources. Under search box, click on sources, then primary sources, to limit search.

FMG Archival Film & Newsreels Collection Find archival and historical films depicting wars, cultural phenomena, and government programs. Search options include keyword and time period. Limit video type to “Newsreel or Primary Source” or “Lecture or Interview.”

Heritage Quest Search through genealogical and historical sources including The Freedman’s Bank records for African Americans after the Civil War.

INTERNET

Covers 500 years of history with emphasis on colonization, abolition, migrations, and the Work Projects Administration. Many narratives and personal stories as well as photographs.

African-American Odyssey https://memory.loc.gov/ammem/aaohtml
Includes the African-American Odyssey: A Quest for Full Citizenship; the Frederick Douglass Papers; Jackie Robinson and Other Baseball Highlights; Born in Slavery: Slave Narratives; From Slavery to Freedom: the African-American Pamphlet Collection; and Slaves and the Courts

Over 2,300 first-person accounts of slavery along with 500 photos of former slaves.

Amistad Research Center www.amistadresearchcenter.org
The nation’s largest independent African-American archive. Holdings include papers, letters, photographs, and oral histories.

Civil Rights History Project https://www.loc.gov/collections/civil-rights-history-project/about-this-collection/
Interviews with people who participated in the civil rights movement in the 1950s-1960s, including activists and members of the NAACP, Congress of Racial Equality, and the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. Discussions of the Freedom Rides, the Selma to Montgomery Rights March, sit-ins, voter registration drives and much more.
ONLINE CATALOG

Search for books by author, title, keyword or subject in the Maple Woods Library online catalog at 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 29 million items. Request books online from other libraries at no charge.

Use LC subject search terms of correspondence; diaries; interviews; oral history; personal narratives; sources; speeches, addresses, etc.; and treaties, along with keywords relevant to your topic.

SELECTED CIRCULATING BOOKS

305.567 B81n   Narrative of the Life of Henry Box Brown
305.567 I11    I was Born a Slave: An Anthology of Classic Slave Narratives
                (2 volumes)
305.567 P987   Puttin’ On Ole Massa: The Slave Narratives of Henry Bibb, William
                Wells Brown, and Solomon Northup
305.567 SL16n  Slave Narratives
305.567 Y48v   Voices from Slavery
305.8 C723    The Columbia Documentary History of Race and Ethnicity in America
305.8 F86a    Afro-American History: Primary Sourced by Thomas R. Frazier
305.8 G798    The Great American Mosaic: An Exploration of Diversity in Primary Documents
305.896 L569  Letters from Black America
305.896 R282  Remembering Jim Crow: African Americans Tell about Life in the Segregated South
306.362 B81f 2003 From Fugitive Slave to Free Man: The Autobiographies of William Wells Brown
306.362 C88m  The Memoirs of Captain Hugh Crow: The Life and Times of a Slave Trade Captain
306.362 I11    I Belong to South Carolina: South Carolina Slave Narratives
306.362 M519  Memories of the Enslaved: Voices from the Slave Narrative
306.362 Si8o  The Odyssey of an African Slave
322.4 Am3    Am I Not a Man and a Brother: The Antislavery Crusade of Revolutionary America, 1688-1788
322.42 B561s  The Black Panthers: Portraits from an Unfinished Revolution
322.42 N483h  The Huey P. Newton Reader
323.1 H83m   Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, and the Civil Rights Struggle of the 1950s and 1960s: A Brief History with Documents
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<td>A Documentary History of the Negro People in the United States</td>
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