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African American Civil Rights Movement (1954–1968)

Student Research Guide

Modern History | Year 11 and 12

Cover: [Civil rights march on Washington, D.C.](#), 1963, U.S. News & World Report Magazine Photograph Collection.

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Teachers can advise students on State Library's resources and encourage their use to help with their studies and research. Students are encouraged to access State Library's resources at school, but not during class time.

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Overview

As Queensland's leading research library, State Library is a great place to find information to complete your research-based assessments.

State Library's One Search catalogue is the gateway to an extensive suite of national and international journals, databases, ebooks, encyclopedias, newspaper archives, and collections of thousands of historical images, letters, artworks, diaries, and artefacts to interrogate as sources.

This guide is designed to help you discover items on the **African American Civil Rights Movement (1954–1968)** that you can access on site, from your school or home.

Before you get started

- [Become a member](#) of State Library of Queensland (it's free!).
- Once you have joined State Library, log in to your account in [One Search](#) so you can use the links in this research guide to access the featured collection items.
- Complete the [Student research with State Library](#) module for a guide to navigating State Library's resources. Or visit the [One Search help page](#) for tips & tricks for searching One Search.
- You can search our catalogue for [all items on the African American Civil Rights Movement](#) or begin exploring by clicking on some of the featured items contained in this research guide.

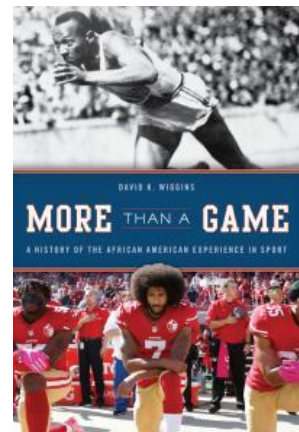
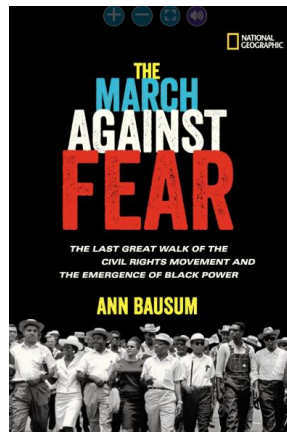
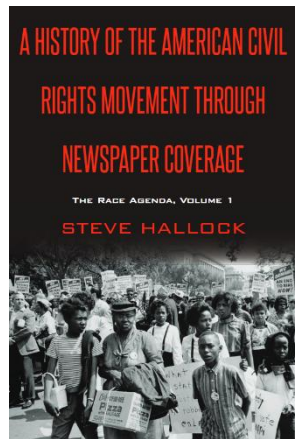
Student research with State Library

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[Start module](#) 



Featured ebooks



Featured databases

[Oxford Reference](#) spans 25 different subject areas, bringing together 2 million digitised entries across Oxford University Press's dictionaries, companions, and encyclopedias.

Subject

Reference Type

My Content (3)

My Searches (3)

Encyclopedia of African American History 1896 to the Present

Edited by: Paul Finkelman

This remarkable work traces the transition from the Reconstruction Era to the age of Jim Crow, the Harlem Renaissance, the Civil Rights Movement, and the ascendant influence of African Americans on the American cultural landscape. With coverage up to and including the 2008 election of Barack Obama as the 44th President of the United States, the *Encyclopedia* contains approximately 1,200 fully cross-referenced entries all signed by leading scholars and experts, offering the most reliable and extensive treatment to be found on African American history in this era.

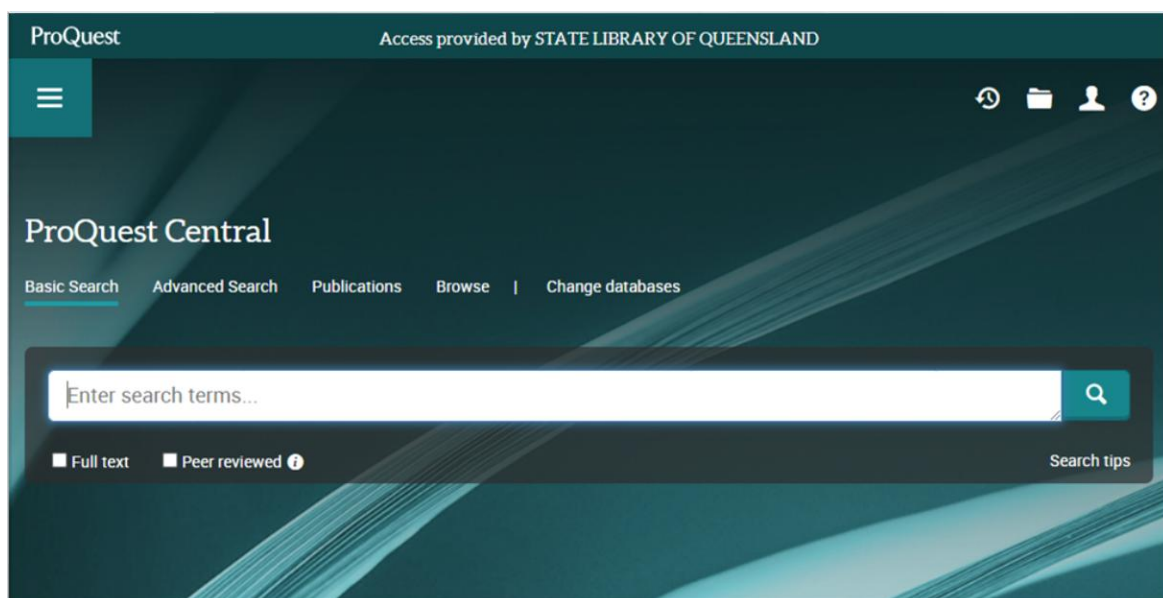
Paul Finkelman, editor in chief

Paul Finkelman is President William McKinley Distinguished Professor of Law and Public Policy at Albany Law School, New York. He is the author of more than 30 books and more than 150 journal articles.

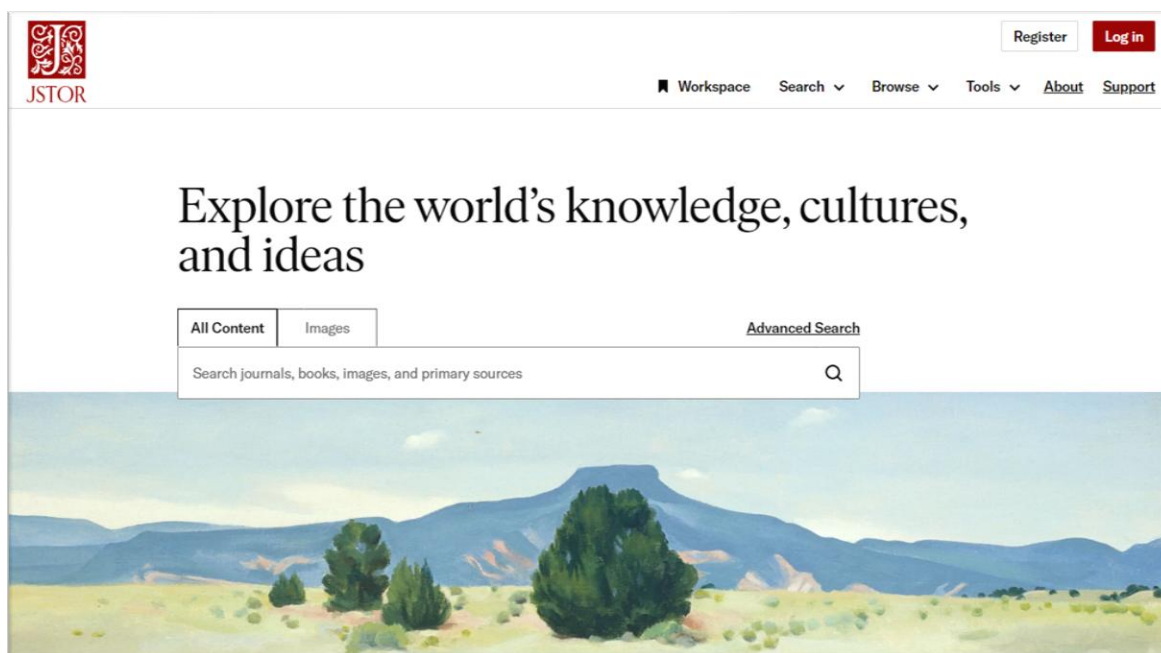
The [Britannica Library](#) has articles, images and more, with a selection of resources especially for teenagers.



[ProQuest Central](#) brings together 47 databases across 175 subject areas, providing easy intuitive access to an incredibly broad and comprehensive range of content.



[JSTOR](#) provides access to more than 12 million scholarly journal articles and is an excellent resource for primary sources.



Music of the Civil Rights Movement

[Music Online](#) combines audio and video that spans all time periods, hundreds of thousands of seminal artists, composers, choreographers, and ensembles

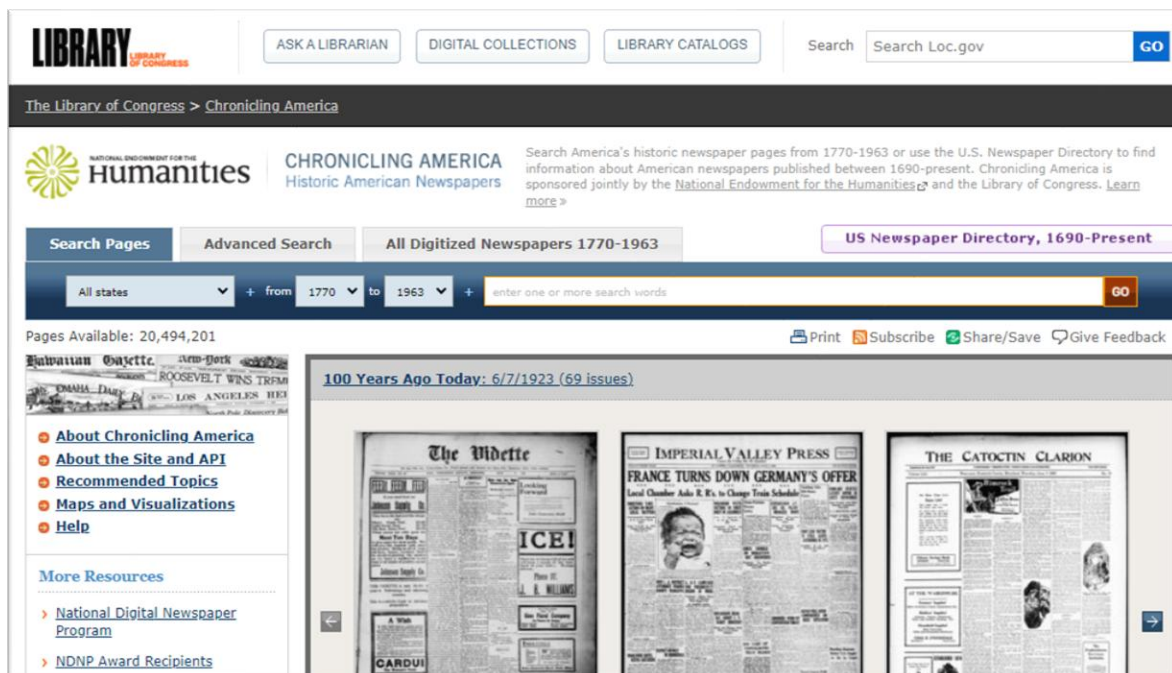
A screenshot of the Alexander Street Music Online website showing search results for 'civil rights'. The top navigation bar includes a menu icon, the Alexander Street logo, a search bar, and icons for shopping cart, folder, and user profile. The left sidebar contains filters: 'FILTERS APPLIED' (Historical Event: U.S. Civil Rights Movement, 1954-), 'SEARCH RESULTS' (Include sample content), and 'REFINE YOUR SEARCH' (Format: Audio (13), Text (7); Genre; Soloist / Performer; Ensemble; Instrument; Place Written / Recorded; Historical Event). The main content area shows 'Searching: civil rights 20 results'. It includes a search bar within results, radio buttons for 'within these results' (selected) and 'all content', and a 'Select 1 - 10' option. Two results are displayed: 'Sing For Freedom: The Story of the Civil Rights Movement Through Its Songs' (produced by Guy Carawan, 1927-2015) and 'Voices of the Civil Rights Movement: Black American Freedom Songs 1960-1966' (produced by Bernice Johnson Reagon, 1942-). Each result includes a thumbnail image, a title, and a brief description.

Newspapers

The [SMH archives](#) contains 820,000 pages in almost 13,000 issues of The Sydney Morning Herald and The Sun-Herald, spanning 1955 to 1995.



[Chronicling America](#), by the US Library of Congress, is a searchable, digital archive of American newspapers from 1770 through to 1963.



More research

Search the catalogue

Continue searching for more using these subject searches:

[Civil rights movements -- United States -- History -- 20th century](#)

[African Americans -- Civil rights -- History -- 20th century](#)

[National Association for the Advancement of Colored People -- History -- 20th century](#)

[African American civil rights workers -- Biography](#)

[King, Martin Luther, Jr., 1929-1968](#)

[United States -- History -- 1953-1961](#)

[United States -- History -- 1961-1969](#)

[United States -- Race relations](#)

[African American women](#)

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Ask a librarian.

[State Library staff](#) are available to advise on keywords and search strategies and suggest databases to help you carry out independent research.

Please note that librarians can guide and support your research process, but they cannot complete your assessment, select sources for you or provide answers to assessment questions.