



# American Ethnicity Pathfinder

## Library Resource Guide

### Finding Books

You can find books in the [UT library catalog](#) (or the OhioLINK Central Catalog) using keywords for your topics or a subject headings search. More help is available from the [UT Library Guide](#). Suggested keywords or subject headings include:

**Multiculturalism-United States**  
**National characteristics, American**  
**Acculturation**

**Assimilation**  
**Ethnic relations**  
**Identity**

**Minorities**  
**Immigration**  
**Diversity**

**Or use specific ethnic groups, such as: African Americans, Asian Americans, Hispanic Americans, etc.**

Ethnic Identity is a broad topic and its interdisciplinary nature means that relevant materials are found throughout the collection. A book's location depends upon its subject matter. Materials discussing specific ethnic or racial groups will have subdivided subject headings, as for example, "Jews – United States – Identity" "Mexican American Youth – Ethnic Identity". More specific subject headings describe the concept of biracial/multiracial as well as relations between different ethnic or racial groups or among different multiracial/biracial groups, as for example, "children of interracial marriage", "interracial adoption", "mestizos", "miscegenation", "racially mixed people", "Métis".

### Finding Articles

In general, searching the databases for multicultural or ethnic information is somewhat complex due to language bias and social values. Your most efficient method is to use keywords and avoid subject searches. Begin your search for current information with an OhioLINK Research database: [SocINDEX](#) or [Academic Search Complete](#). If you are looking for a cultural perspective, [MLA International Bibliography](#) is your best choice. If you want a political focus, try [International Political Science Abstracts](#). To expand your search, search for Canadian or Latin American topics or try a subject search, use [Historical Abstracts](#) or [America: History and Life](#). [Humanities International Complete](#) or [Social Work Abstracts](#) will also provide a different focus for your research.

### Background Information

[Harvard Encyclopedia of American Ethnic Groups](#)

Reference E184 .A1H35

Published in 1980, this is regardless an excellent source for multidisciplinary studies of American minorities. Native American groups, Arabs, Central and South America are given broad-brush treatment. Fifty thematic essays (on such topics as pluralism, assimilation, identity, cultural and historical contexts) present a basic overview and support the notion of an "American nationality".

[Encyclopedia of Minorities in American Politics](#) (2 volumes)

Reference E184.A1E574 2000

Chronicles significant historic trends in the struggle for political rights by minorities. Entries cover people, events, court cases, movements, and organizations. Key issues – affirmative action, immigration, bilingual education and politics — are put in current context. Each entry has a bibliography and cross-references. Several useful appendices (organizations, documents and speeches, timelines) are included.

### Definitions

[Gale Encyclopedia of Multicultural America](#) (2 volumes)

Reference E184.A1G14 1995

Signed original essays, each addressing a distinct ethnic, ethno religious, or Native American group are arranged alphabetically. Primary focus is on a group's experiences in the U.S., specifically in the areas of acculturation and assimilation, family and community dynamics, language, religion, employment, politics, and significant contributions. Many entries also feature directory listings of periodicals, radio and television stations, organizations and associations, museums and research centers and bibliography.

[The Color of Words](#)

General Collection 4<sup>th</sup> Floor E184.A1H766 1997

Demonstrates the use of language as a way of expressing American ethnic life and identity. Bias is the key criterion for inclusion. Many entries have comments as to group stereotypes, origins, and ethnic identity.

[Dictionary of Race, Ethnicity and Culture](#)

Reference GN495.6.D53 2003

Provides the historical background and etymology for a wide range of words related to the concepts and ideas of race, ethnicity and culture. Looks at discourses on race, ethnicity and culture from a broadly multicultural perspective. Contains numerous references to European and American concepts, debates and terms.

## Standard References

You may also want to “browse” the Reference Collection in the E184.A1 area.

[American Immigrant Cultures](#)

Reference E184 .A1A63448 1997 v.1-2

Covers 161 non-indigenous cultural groups currently living in the U.S. Discusses the cultural characteristics of each group, including immigration and settlement histories, language, economic patterns, housing, religion, marriage.

[A Comprehensive Bibliography for the Study of Ethnic Minorities](#)

[NWO Depository](#) E184.A1M5y

Although dated, this still very useful resource offers a selective listing of bibliographies, periodicals, histories of fiction, poetry, music, biographies, and autobiographies arranged by subject headings.

[Encyclopedia of Multiculturalism](#)

Reference E184.A1E58 1994

This aims to be as inclusive as possible in its coverage, bringing together many multicultural topics and focused on issues that unite and divide diverse Americans. It contains entries on people, places, events, laws, and organizations. Emphasis is on U.S. history but includes Canada as well. With timeline, resource lists, filmography, and bibliography.

[Encyclopedia of Multicultural Psychology](#)

Reference GN502 .E63 2006

An authoritative guide to the field of multicultural psychology, this volume presents an overview of a wide range of issues involving the psychology of racial and ethnic minority experience to better understand differences among individuals. Focus is on culture with an index to terms, concepts, and issues in the field. All major ethnic groups and subgroups the United States are covered. Many useful statistics are included.

[Multiculturalism in the United States: a comparative guide to acculturation and ethnicity](#) Ref. E184.A1 M85 2005

A survey of how American culture affects and is affected by ethnic groups, including Arabs, Haitians, Vietnamese, Koreans, Filipinos, Asian Indians and Dominicans. This edition’s essays reflect how changes in American society affect immigration patterns, and how immigrants conversely influence the broader culture.

[Official Guide to Racial and Ethnic Diversity](#)

General Collection 4<sup>th</sup> Floor E184.A1R77 1996x

Contains statistics examining the 4 largest ethnic groups and Latinos. Most of the data is from the 1990 Census and the Current Population Survey. Characterizations of Whites, the Total Population, and Attitudes comprise 3 more chapters.

[Racial and Ethnic Groups](#)

Reference E184.A1 S3 2008

A comprehensive introduction to the issues confronting racial and ethnic groups in the U.S. and abroad. Examined are each group’s history, its current situation, and future concerns. Organized by issues and major racial and ethnic groups.

## Internet Resources

*Multicultural Internet Links*

<http://cnet.sscnet.ucla.edu/>

An “umbrella” site that lists and links to current sites of interest.

*Voice of the Shuttle: Minority Studies Page*

<http://vos.ucsb.edu/index.asp>

Another “umbrella” site that links to contemporary general and specific sites.

*The university of Maryland Diversity Database*

<http://www.inform.umd.edu/EdRes/Topic/Diversity>

Includes multicultural resources but emphasizes the contemporary scene and current definition of “diverse”.

*The Center for the Study of White American Culture*

<http://www.euroamerican.org/>

A multiracial organization that looks at whiteness and white American culture.

*Internet Public Library*

<http://www.ipl.org>

A virtual library sponsored by the Univ. of Michigan and the U.S. Department of Education. Easy search interface using keywords or topics (Ethnic Groups, or, Native Americans, or Minorities) provides a list of relevant, quality web sites.

## Digital Images

*Social Issues Photographs*

<http://content.lib.washington.edu/Socialweb/>

The University of Washington Libraries Digital Collection offers this collection which covers social topics and ethnic groups. Particular focus on northwestern United States.

*Digital Media Center (OhioLINK)*

<http://dmc.ohiolink.edu/>

Several databases of electronic images or videos, including sound, numeric data, and other types of electronic media.