

How to Find Hispanic Materials

General searching techniques

- When doing *keyword* searches, try both the English and Spanish words.
- Also keep in mind words with alternate spellings (e.g., Brazil, Brasil)
- Try searching the adjective form of countries (e.g., Argentinian as well as Argentina)
- Truncate the country name (e.g., Mexic* for Mexico, Mexican, etc.)
- Use **Boolean Keyword** searching (AND, OR) to search for forms of the country's name (using OR) and combine it with some aspect of that country in which you are interested:
EXAMPLE: (Chile or Chilean) and politics
Architecture and (Spain or Spanish)
- When searching by title, don't include initial articles (la, los, las...)
- When searching for *compound names* (e.g., Gabriel Garcia Marquez), try searching the name in various forms
(e.g., whole name "Garcia Marquez" but also just "Marquez")

1. Searching for books (also dvds, recordings, etc.) in the library catalog

NOTE: To limit to items in Spanish, click on **Advanced** search tab, then select "Spanish" from the dropdown menu next to Language

- For works about *Hispanics, Hispanic culture, literature, etc.*, click on the **Subject** search tab and type in the following terms (allows you to browse all subjects beginning with those terms):
 - Hispanic American [Hispanics in the U.S.]
 - Mexican American [Mexican culture in the U. S.]
 - Latin American [Mexican, Central, and South American]—of any language (e.g. Spanish, Portuguese, French)
 - Puerto Rican [Puerto Rican culture in PR and the US]
 - South American [culture in South America]
 - Spanish American [Spanish culture of Latin America]
 - Spanish [anything Spanish; retrieves many books]
- For *genres of Spanish literature* (both anthologies of it and materials about it), click on **Subject** search tab and type
 - subject headings "Spanish poetry", "Spanish drama", etc.
 - Exceptions:
 - For *Latin American literature*, search the subject "Spanish American literature"
 - For *Spanish literature of the United States*, search the subject "Hispanic American literature (Spanish)"
- Also, search literature of specific countries: Cuban literature, Argentine poetry, Peruvian drama
- For DVDs and videos that the Spanish department has ordered, click on **Subject** search tab and type in: "Modern languages (Media)-Spanish"

2. Searching for books (also dvds, recordings, etc.) in WorldCat

- WorldCat is an excellent resource for materials in any language that we may not have but that you can order through Interlibrary Loan. (WorldCat is located under “QuickLinks” from the Library home page (at right).)
- Use the same keywords, subject headings, and strategies you use in the Library’s catalog (see I above).
- Searching keywords and phrases in WorldCat may help you find articles or chapters listed in contents notes.

3. Searching for articles

- Select a database by clicking on “Find...Articles/Databases/Subjects” link on the Library home page. (Remember: Depending on the topic, many databases could produce useful information.) However, here are several that are generally used:
 - *MLA Bibliography* (for language and literature)
 - *SocIndex* (for culture and ethnographic research; includes many core journals)
 - *Anthrosource* (esp. for culture, indigenous peoples)
 - *Columbia International Affairs Online* (for politics)
 - *Ethnic NewsWatch* (for issues or current events; includes full text of newspapers, magazines and journals of the ethnic and native presses in Spanish and English)

4. Journals in Spanish available at Messiah

In the Library catalog, a **Boolean Keyword** search for “Spanish and Periodicals” results in hundreds of Spanish language periodicals available in databases available from the Library home page. Also try doing a *Subject* search for “Modern Languages (Periodicals)” (by clicking on the **Subject** search tab).