

Lesson H

Humanities: Philosophy and Religion

The library catalog is the best place to start when you are looking for books on a specific subject. Books in the Hartnell College Library are arranged according to the Library of Congress Classification System. In this system you will generally find all the books on **philosophy** shelved together with call numbers starting with the letter **B**. Books on **religion** will generally have call numbers starting with the letters **BL through BX**.

1. Using the Hartnell Online Catalog, go to the “Basic Search” screen and enter the **subject heading** “Philosophy”.

How many titles are listed for “philosophy”? _____

How many titles are listed for “Philosophy, American”? _____

Look at the list of titles for “Philosophy, American” and choose one title. What is the Call Number of the book? _____

Write down one of the other subject headings given for this book _____

The Hartnell College Library carries materials on many subjects in formats other than print. These formats include videos, cassettes, CD-ROM, microfilm, etc.

2. Using the “Combination Search” mode in the online catalog, do a **keyword** search for items with the words **religion** and **videorecording**.

How many videos do you find? _____

Find a video called Dreamtales from this list. Look at the **Full Record** for this title.

How many animated films does this video contain? _____

Name **two** of the ethnic groups whose star legends are covered in this video:

Give the **Series** title: _____

Dictionaries are the source of meanings of, or basic information on, words. Dictionaries may be general or they may be confined to a specific subject area. Dictionaries are almost always arranged alphabetically.

3. Find the Dictionary of Philosophy and Religion (REF B41 .R43 1980). Using the title page(s), what schools of thought does the dictionary include?

Find the word “philosophy” in the Dictionary. What two Greek words does it come from and what do they mean? _____

Now find the word “religion”. What Latin word does it come from and what does it mean? _____

Encyclopedias provide general information. Encyclopedias are a good starting point for doing research on a subject. Like dictionaries, encyclopedias may be general or they may be confined to a specific subject area. Encyclopedias are often, but not always, arranged alphabetically.

4. Locate the 16 volume set The Encyclopedia of Religion (REF BL 31. E46 1987). Look up the word **philosophy**. Read the first two paragraphs of “An Overview”. What is the intriguing question faced by philosophers?

What is the *etymological* meaning of **philosophy**? _____

Now look up **religion** in the Encyclopedia. The attempt to define religion is a concern of primarily what part of the world? _____

5. Find the Encyclopedia Man, Myth & Magic (REF BF1411 .M25 1983). How many volumes are there in the set? _____

Look up **Ahura Mazda** in the index volume. There are two references to him in Volume 1. On what pages are these references? _____

Go to Volume **1** and find the entry with a picture of him. Read the caption.

Ahura Mazda is the name of a god of what religion? _____

What is the name of his twin? _____

6. In the book Religious Leaders (REF BL31 .B7613 1991) find the entry for **Martin Luther**. When was he born and when did he die? _____

Glance through the section on **His Works**. How many hymns did Luther write?

7. Using the Plato Dictionary (REF B351 .S7), look up the word **Culture**. What does Plato consider to be the end of culture? _____

8. Look at the **Table of Contents** of Religious Holidays and Calendars: An Encyclopedic Handbook (REF CE6 .K45 1998).

Give **one** of the three basic questions that all calendars must answer. _____

Turn to the chapter on **Judaism**. In the **holidays** section, find **Yom Kippur**. What does Yom Kippur mean? _____

What is another name for Yom Kippur? _____

Why might people light candles on this occasion? _____

Look at the **Chronological List of Holidays** towards the end of the book.

What festival occurs on **June 17**? _____

9. Locate America's Alternative Religions (REF BL2525 .A55 1995).

Find the section on the **Rastafari** under **African-American Freedom Movements**. Scan through the first page of this section and explain why "Dreadlocks" got that name:

10. Using the index at the back of Cults in America (REF BL2525 .L486 1998), locate the section on **Rastafarianism** Scan through this section.

What is the importance of dreadlocks according to the Bible? _____

11. Locate the multi- volume set The Interpreter's Bible (REF BS491.2 .I55).

Using the Subject Index, look up **Tree of life** as a **religious figure**.

Which volume and page number does the entry refer you to? _____

Go to the entry and find the reference. How many kinds of fruit did the tree of life bear?

To which Book of the Bible does this entire section refer? (Hint: the answer is at the top of the page.) _____

12. Using the Encyclopedia of Islam and the Muslim World (REF BP40 .E525 2004), find the entry on **Muhammad**.

What are his birth and death dates? _____

Muhammad is acknowledged by more than one billion Muslims as what? _____

13. Look at the **Introduction** to The Essential Koran (REF BP110 1993).

Why is the book referred to as **Qur'an** here? _____

Go to the section titled **The Qur'an** What does Qur'an mean? _____

14. Look up **Onenha** in the name index of Goddesses in World Mythology (REF BL473.5 .A66 1993).

Give the title of the section of the book where you find the entry: _____

What are the two things Onenha taught the man she saved from death? _____

15. Look up **Michelangelo** in the Encyclopedia of Heaven (REF BL540 .V36 1999) and in the Encyclopedia of Hell (REF BL545 .V26 1998).

Which of the two entries is longer? _____

Read the first paragraph of each entry. Which book has a reference to the *Pieta*?

Books that provide visual geographic material in the form of maps are called atlases. Atlases may be devoted to specific subjects and may sometimes include narrative, statistical, or other types of information.

16. Using The Atlas of Sacred Places (REF BL580 .H37 1994), go to the section on the **Golden Temple**.

When was the temple originally founded? _____

Look at the map with the entry. What is the name of the river that flows near the temple?

Periodicals and newspapers are a good source for finding current or brief information on a subject. They are also a good source for finding various viewpoints from a specific time period. In order to find articles on a specific subject easily, you will need to use an online periodical database such as EBSCOhost Academic Search Premier, or ProQuest Newspapers.

17. Using **EBSCOhost Academic Search Premier**, find a peer reviewed journal article on the subject of **atheism** (see the Hartnell Library's handout: "Scholarly Journal Articles vs. Popular Magazine Articles" for an explanation of peer-reviewed journals).

What is the complete title of the article? _____

What is the complete *title* and *date* of the periodical in which it was published? _____

The **Internet** is an invaluable and immense source of information. However, information available through the Internet is constantly changing and caution must be exercised when using it. Since anybody can make material available through the Internet, make sure you evaluate the site carefully by determining the source/author, the purpose, the currency, etc., before you use it.

Many classic works of literature are now available electronically at such sites as the Project Gutenberg (http://www.gutenberg.org/wiki/Main_Page), and Bartleby (<http://www.bartleby.com/>).

18. Using the Internet, go to Bartleby and find the work The Golden Bough (hint: look for “Frazer’s Golden Bough” in the Reference drop-down menu). What is the complete title of this work, and who is the author?

In the brief description of this work, it is stated that *The Golden Bough* shows parallels between what? _____

Click on the “Bibliographic Record” link. When was this book originally published?

Does the Hartnell Library own this book? _____

Your comments about this lesson:
