

AMERICAN CHURCH HISTORY  
Bibliography

270.072/B811. Bradley, James E., and Richard A. Muller. Church History: An Introduction to Research, Reference Works, and Methods. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1995.

Provides an introduction to methods for research and writing in church history and historical theology, but “assumes a basic acquaintance with church history and history of Christian doctrine and certain basic skills in research and writing.” Also contains a bibliography of “selected aids to the study of church history and historical theology.”

R.R.016.973/H236/1974. Freidel, Frank Burt. Harvard Guide to American History. Rev. ed. 2v in 1. Cambridge, MA: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1974.

A selective bibliography “of the available material that is likely to be most immediately useful to the searcher into political, social, constitutional, and economic history” of the U.S. Vol. 1 is arranged topically under the following headings: research methods and materials, biographies and personal records, comprehensive and area histories, and histories of special subjects. The section on “religion” is on pp. 512-530. Vol. 2 is arranged chronologically, with emphasis on political and diplomatic history. The terminal date for inclusion of materials is June 30, 1970. Vol. 2 contains name and subject indexes.

R.R.016.973/P971/1994. Prucha, Francis Paul. Handbook for Research in American History: A Guide to Bibliographies and Other Reference Works. 2nd ed., rev. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1994.

Introduces the types of resources available for the study of American history in 20 chapters with information on 1,000 specific titles. Includes index.

R.R.016.2773/S214. Sandeen, Ernest Robert, and Frederick Hale. American Religion and Philosophy: A Guide to Information Sources. Detroit: Gale Research Co., 1978.

An annotated classified bibliography to provide students and scholars of religion and philosophy in the U.S. with a general introduction to recent secondary literature and key primary documents: which have been published since Burr’s 1961 bibliography. Contains author, title, and subject indexes.

277.3/Sm651c. Burr, Nelson Rollin. A Critical Bibliography of Religion in America. 2v. Princeton, NJ: University of Pennsylvania, 1961.

A bibliography of books, articles, and theses in the form of bibliographic essays covering the various aspects of American church history. Arranged under five major headings: bibliographical guides: general surveys and histories; evolution of American religion; religion and society; religion in the arts and literature; and intellectual history, theology, philosophy, and science. Contains author index.

R.R.016.209/R382. Burr, Nelson R. Religion in American Life. New York: Appleton-Century-Crofts, 1971.

A selective classified bibliography of books, articles, and dissertations intended for graduates and advanced undergraduates in courses on religion in the U.S. Attempts to “provide ample coverage of important works and topics, with emphasis on research in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and upon the sociological aspects of religion.” One line annotation for each entry. Contains author index.

R.R.016.27/M689s. Mode, Peter George. Source Book and Bibliographical Guide for American Church History. Menasha, WI: George Banta Publ. Co., 1921.

Contains “the most significant documents for the entire field of American church history.” Chapters move chronologically through American church history. The bibliographies at the beginning of each chapter of documents are arranged chronologically. Contains subject/person index.

R.R.016.3066/R382. Brunkow, Robert deV. Religion and Society in North America: An Annotated Bibliography. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-Clio Information Service, 1983.

A classified bibliography of 4,034 periodical articles selected from volumes 11-18 of America: History and Life. Articles are drawn from some 600 periodicals published mainly during 1973-80. Contains an extensive subject index.

R.R.016.2910975/L766. Lippy, Charles H. Bibliography of Religion in the South. Macon, GA: Mercer, 1985.

Contains 21 chapters organized in two major sections. The first is a bibliographical essay on the major works in the area; the second is a topically organized bibliography.

R.R.016.200973/R382. Fraker, Anne T. Religion and American Life: Resources. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1989.

Annotations of 116 books and 121 articles significant for an understanding of religion’s place in America. “These works represent high-quality scholarly works that reflect the best current material about the interaction between religion and American life.”

R.R.277.3003/D554. Reid, Daniel G. Dictionary of Christianity in America. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1990.

Contains 2600 signed articles by 430 contributors including biographical summaries of noteworthy men & women; interpretive treatments of subjects; discussions of religious practices & experiences; objective descriptions of denominations, organizations & movements; and examinations of contemporary topics. Contains bibliographies and cross-references.

R.R.922.0973/M235. Toulouse, Mark G., and James O. Duke. Makers of Christian Theology in America. Nashville: Abingdon, 1997.

Contains intellectual portraits of 91 individuals who were formative in shaping American theological history. The articles are arranged chronologically from colonial times to the mid-twentieth century according to five periods in American history with each period introduced by a short essay. The 6 to 12-page signed articles are written by specialists and contain “(1) basic biographical data regarding the life, career, and principal writings of the person; (2) the key theological issues and concerns to which the figures responded; (3) the important theological themes advanced by the figure; and (4) the thinker’s impact on American theology.” Each article is followed by a short bibliography.

R.R.280/Y32. Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1973- .

A directory of religious bodies in the U.S. and Canada. Contains short account (one or two paragraphs) about church’s origin and basic teachings, addresses of headquarters & departments,

officers, and periodicals published. Also includes directories of cooperative religious organizations, regional & local ecumenical agencies, and seminaries and Bible colleges, and a listing of religious periodicals in the U.S. and Canada with addresses and indication of denomination affiliation. Statistical tables reflect church membership, number of churches, number of clergy, and contribution. The latest edition is accessible on the Internet using pass code printed on the inside back cover of the volume. This electronic edition is updated twice during the year.

R.R.280.973/M479h/2005. Mead, Frank S., Samuel S. Hill, and Craig D. Atwood. Handbook of Denominations in the United States. 12<sup>th</sup> ed. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2005.

Contains entries on “the major Christian denominations in the U.S—their historical background, their doctrines or main teachings, and their polity of structure of governance.” Includes “statistics on number of churches and church members and information on church-related schools.” Also treats the major branches of Judaism and Islam found in the U.S. Religious bodies are grouped into family categories and treated chronologically. Appendix 4 is a “Directory of Denomination and Headquarters Web sites.” Includes an index.

R.R.912.12/N556. Newman, William M., and Peter L. Halvorson. Atlas of American Religion: The Denominational Era, 1776-1990. Walnut Creek, CA: Altamira Press, 2000.

Focuses “on the historical development and growth patterns of American religious organizations from 1776 to 1990.” Fifty tables and 92 maps accompany the text.

R.R.209.73/G274h/2000. Gaustad, Edwin S., and Philip L. Barlow. New Historical Atlas of Religion in America. New York: Oxford University Press, 2000.

Contains colored maps and graphs illustrating the distribution, membership, and number of churches of religious groups in the U.S. from colonial times to 1990. Part one treats institutional and ethnic religion before 1800; part two treats institutional and ethnic religion after 1800 with colored maps reflecting the number of churches in each U.S. county for each denomination for the years 1850, 1890, 1950, & 1990. Part two also includes maps and information on Asian Americans, Buddhists, Hindus, Jains, Sikhs, Muslims and Baha’is. Part three contains a detailed cartographic examination of the Lutherans, Mormons, and Roman Catholics. Part four contains maps indicating the regional denominational predominance in 1830, 1850, 1870, 1890, 1916, 1936, 1952, 1971, & 1990 and pie graphs indicating the percentage of denominational membership in each U.S. state in 1990.

R.R.280.973/P614. Piepkorn, Arthur Carl. Profiles in Belief: The Religious Bodies of the United States and Canada. 4 v in 3. New York: Harper & Row, 1977-79.

Extensive treatment of the history of U.S. and Canadian Christian bodies arranged by religious tradition.

R.R.200.973/M528/2009. Melton, J. Gordon. Melton’s Encyclopedia of American Religions. 8th ed. Detroit: Gale, 2009.

Contains over 2,300 entries (with bibliographies) on religious bodies; 200 are new to this ed. Consists of 2 parts: three introductory essays which “trace the development of religion in America and Canada” and 24 religious family historical essays which “discuss the growth and development of the major religious families and traditions in North America.” Following each of these essays are descriptive information on the groups within those families. Treats many non-

Christian and unusual groups. Includes defunct appendix (1149-1269), geographic appendix listing groups by country and state (1271-98), and master index.

R.R.200.973/Q3/2001. Queen, Edward L. II, Stephen R. Prothero, and Gardiner H. Shattuck, Jr. Encyclopedia of American Religious History. Rev. ed. 2 v. New York: Facts on File, 2001. Contains more than 700 signed articles (with bibliographies) by 11 scholars on important persons, denominations, key events & themes, movements & sects, and controversial issues. Attempts to reflect the diversity of the American religious scene. Gauged for the general reader. Contains illustrations and numerous cross references. Entries from the first ed. have been revised and new ones added.

R.R.200.973/C761. Roof, Wade Clark, ed. Contemporary American Religion. 2v. New York: Macmillan, 2000.

Contains more than 500 signed articles (with bibliographies). It “is intended as a lexicon of popular religious culture, pulling together beliefs, practices, ideas, symbols, traditions, movements, trends, organizations, discourses, and major leaders making up the incredibly diverse religious climate of the United States at the beginning of the twenty-first century.” Cross-references provided at end of and between articles. Index in vol. 2.

R.R.291.0973/E56w. Williamson, William Bedford. Encyclopedia of Religions in the United States. New York: Crossroad, 1992.

Descriptions of about 100 of the largest and most important religious groups & institutions in America. Information is supplied by a representative of that group and includes the following: a general self-description & the reasons for its existence; the founder and/or major leaders; its unique doctrines, forms of worship, organization & function; its contribution to & estimated influence in the U.S.; significant terms & names; and bibliography.

R.R.291.0973/E56. Lippy, Charles H., and Peter W. Williams. Encyclopedia of the American Religious Experience: Studies of Traditions and Movements. 3v. New York: Scribner, 1988.

Contains 105 signed articles by 94 contributors. The articles are divided into 9 sections and organized by topical and thematic essays that “have been composed with an eye not simply to thorough coverage of a particular topic but also to the significance of that subject in the development of American society and culture and the religious traditions and organizations within it.” The major sections are: Approaches to religion in America; North America: Contexts and backgrounds; Jewish & Christian traditions; Religions outside the Jewish & Christian traditions; Movements in American religion; American religious thought & literature; Liturgy, worship & the arts; Religion and the political & social orders; and the Dissemination of American religion. Contains subject-title-name index and cross-references.

R.R.200.973/R382La. Laderman, Gary, and Luis Leon. Religion and American Cultures: An Encyclopedia of Traditions, Diversity, and Popular Expressions. 3 v. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, 2003.

Contains about 200 signed articles, with bibliographies. In vol. 1 the articles are arranged under ethnic groups and religious traditions. In vol. 2 the articles are grouped under “cultural idioms imbued with spirituality.” Vol. 3 contains a collection of 75 primary documents or excerpts from the end of the 15<sup>th</sup> century to the present, a 33-page bibliography, and an index.

R.R.277.5/E56/2005. Hill, Samuel S., and Charles H. Lippy, eds. Encyclopedia of Religion in the South. 2nd ed., rev., updated, and expanded. Macon, GA: Mercer University Press, 2005. Contains over 700 signed articles (with bibliographies) treating topics in the following categories: denominations, doctrines & theological movements, biographies, sacred places, subject areas, public events & figures, offices, titles & jurisdictions; and special features, which include a miscellany of aspects of religious life. The great majority of articles in the original 1984 edition were revised and 100 new articles were added. Also added was a 36-page overview article on "Religion in the South" written in four parts, each covering a different chronological period.

R.R.277.5/R382h. Hill, Samuel. Religion. The New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture, v. 1. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2006. Contains signed articles (with bibliographies) by 61 contributors. Many of the articles are revisions (by the original authors) of those appearing in the original Encyclopedia of Southern Culture published in 1989. In some cases the articles are updated or rewritten by other scholars. Several new entries were added. Following the overview essay on "Religion" are 36 thematic articles exploring "major expressions of religious influence in the South, ways of understanding its defining features, and diverse points of entry into religious life with a regional context. Topical entries [34] give factual information for select religious figures, leading denominations and religious organizations, and concepts important to the region's religious development."

R.R.200.8996073/E56. Murphy, Larry G., J. Gordon Melton, and Gary L. Ward. Encyclopedia of African American Religions. New York: Garland Publ., 1993. Contains about 1200 articles on major U.S. African American religious leaders, denominations & religious groups, and more prominent religious organizations. Most articles are followed by bibliographies and a 303 entry bibliography is also included. There is a directory of African American churches and religious organizations, a chronological list of major events in Black religious history, and a biographical cross-index which lists biographical entries by the person's religious tradition. Also includes a subject, organization, and personal name index.

R.R.200.90403/E564. Brasher, Brenda E., ed. Encyclopedia of Fundamentalism. New York: Routledge, 2001. Contains 212 signed articles (with bibliographies) by 100 contributors on issues, doctrines, events, and groups associated primarily with Christian Fundamentalism in the U.S. A few articles deal with this phenomenon among some non-Christian religious movements.

R.R.209.73/G175. Religion in America. Princeton, NJ: Princeton Religion Research Center, 1975-2002. Usually published biennially, these volumes contained summaries of surveys undertaken by the Gallup Organization in conjunction with the Princeton Religion Research Center. The 1985 volume was a summary of 50 years of Religion in America, 1935-85. In the 1990 ed. began publishing the Princeton Religion Index, which was a composite average of eight fundamental measurements of religious behavior and opinion.

The Gallup Poll Briefing. 2006-2008.

This Gallup Organization monthly contains information on government & politics, business & the economy, health & healthcare, and religion & social trends. Previously published as Gallup

Tuesday Briefing and The Gallup Poll Tuesday Briefing (2002-2005). Now only available through a subscription to the electronic version through the Gallup Brain; the last print volume was December 2008. Locate articles published in this publication by keyword at <http://brain.gallup.com> under “documents” on the drop-down menu from the search screen. From advanced search screen limit to documents after Jan. 2002.

*The Barna Research Group* ([www.barna.org](http://www.barna.org)) provides information and analysis regarding cultural trends and Christian faith in America under 40 categories, including beliefs, church attendance, teenagers, church demographics, values, etc. Offers a free subscription to “The Barna Update,” an e-mail report containing data from its latest research.

R.R.280.973/C562/2000. Religious Congregations & Membership in the United States. 2000. Nashville: Glenmary Research Center, 2002.

The main body of this work gives the membership of major denominations by U.S. county and indicates the percentage of the population (based on 2000 census figures) represented by each group. Dr. Mac Lynn provided the statistics for the churches of Christ. Other summary tables indicate total membership of groups in the U.S., membership by region, membership by state, and membership by metropolitan size. Also gives membership data for Baha’is, Buddhists, Hindus, Jains, Muslims, Sikhs, Taoists, and Zoroastrians. Includes 24 color maps reflecting the percentage of population represented by major groups. Inquire at front desk for accompanying CD-ROM that contains data from 1952, 1971, 1980, 1990, and 2000.

The data from the 1990 and 2000 volumes can be accessed on the Association of Religion Data Archives (<http://www.thearda.com>). This Web site also provides information on other published statistical studies and links to other statistical sites. Its new American Denominations feature allows the user to see how a denomination is related to other groups, its involvement in mergers or splits and name changes that have occurred.

For more information on ARDA see the following article: Roger Finke, Christopher Bader, and Edward C. Polson, “A Growing Web of Resources: The Association of Religion Data Archives (ARDA) [www.thearda.com](http://www.thearda.com),” Review of Religious Research 49 (Sept. 2007): 21-34. For a corrective to the data in this volume see Roger Finke and Christopher P. Scheitle, “Accounting for the Uncounted: Computing Correctives for the 2000 RCMS Data,” Review of Religious Research 47 (Sept. 2005): 5-22. They supply data for the over 29 million adherents not included in this publication. “The vast majority of these omissions are from 14 denominations [9 of which are predominately African-American] with over 100,000 members.”

ATLA Religion Database.

INDEX. 016.305/I61. International Index. 1907-65.

Indexed a number of historical journals. Covers the period before America: History and Life.

Held by University of Memphis: America: History and Life: A Guide to Periodical Literature. 1964- .

Adherents.com (<http://www.adherents.com>)

A collection of over 41,000 adherent statistics and religious geography citations with "references to published membership/adherent statistics and congregation statistics for over 4,200 religions, churches, denominations, religious bodies, faith groups, tribes, cultures, movements, ultimate concerns, etc." The data is "from both research sources such as government census reports, statistical sampling surveys and organizational reporting, as well as citations from secondary literature which mention adherent statistics." Contains indexes to religion by location and religion by name. This site is maintained by Preston Hunter, a computer science programmer at the University of Texas (Austin). Users should exercise caution when seeking any religious membership statistics; those submitted by the religious group may be inflated or based on different guidelines than others reporting. Also some data may come from dated surveys.