A Website Review: The World Bank eLibrary

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Malcolm X: A Research Site endeavors to be a comprehensive site on the life and legacy of Malcolm X. Launched by Abdul Alkalimat, professor of African American studies at the University of Illinois, it includes the text of two out-of-print bibliographies on Malcolm and listings of books, articles, dissertations, films, a webography, and photos.

Malcolm X remains a captivating public figure, perhaps due in part to his polarizing life and thought. Two excellent analyses of Malcolm’s life and thought are found in Joe Wood’s Malcolm X: In Our Own Image and Robert Terrill’s Cambridge Companion to Malcolm X. Wood’s collection includes essays by Amiri Baraka, Angela Davis, Cornel West, and John Edgar Wideman and covers topics such as the autobiography, sexuality, black nationalism, and cultural politics. Terrill’s compilation includes more prominent scholars on topics including conservatism, the black arts movement, masculinity, feminism, and Afrocentricity. James Cone’s Martin and Malcolm and America was the first substantive attempt to provide a serious analysis of Malcolm’s political thought. Cone’s work compares Malcolm and Martin Luther King, Jr., concluding that although they are often counterposed, they are actually complementary in their vision for racial justice. William Sales’ From Civil Rights to Black Revolution is the only book-length study of the OAAU. Sales locates the OAAU in the context of a new type of civil rights organization and also examines Malcolm’s political thought.

For quick reference, the Malcolm X Encyclopedia contains short entries on nearly all aspects of Malcolm’s life and political activities. Each signed entry contains short bibliographies, and the encyclopedia also includes a chronology of Malcolm’s life and several introductory essays on his main speeches, relation to the NOI, and his assassination.

Endnotes

*Editor’s note: An asterisk (*) denotes a title selected for Resources for College Libraries.

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With the growing trend of libraries shifting from print to electronic materials, The World Bank eLibrary (http://elibrary.worldbank.org/), provides an invaluable electronic tool to subscribers looking for a comprehensive and current collection of literature on economics, business trends, and news from around the world.

The World Bank eLibrary is broken up into five clean, well-organized sections. There is the home page which features new books, journal articles, and working papers, as well as a column featuring the most popular items in the library and current news. From the home page, as with all five pages, there is a conveniently located and intuitive search bar where you can search by full text, keyword, title, author, and more. There is also an advanced searching option with Boolean operators and limiters such as publication type (book, journal, report, paper, and study type), topic, region, country, and publication date. Another convenient element is an automatic search history record that is created from past searches and the option to save searches.

Three of the five main sections, Regions, Topics, and Collections, offer different ways to search or browse The World Bank eLibrary collection. The Regions Page gives you the option to browse six world regions for literature: Africa; Europe & Central Asia; the Middle East & North Africa; East Asia & Pacific; Latin America & Caribbean; and South Asia. If you want more region-specific literature, you can browse over 300 alphabetically organized countries and economies.

The Topics page is broken up into twenty-eight categories from Agriculture to Gender to Transport, to name a few. Each of the topic browsing pages can be organized by title or date. For researchers looking for the most current information on specific topics, this interface will be very convenient.

The third and final way you can browse The World Bank eLibrary is by their collection types: books, journals, and working papers. When you follow the books link, the records are organized in various ways that would be helpful to researchers. The top of the Book Page features new titles, followed by the library’s flagship titles. The rest of the Book Page is broken up similarly to the site as a whole, by region and topic. The Journal and Working Papers pages are more streamlined as they list their publications by title and topic, respectively.

The final section of The World Bank Library is titled Using eLibrary. Here you can find helpful information on how to search the site and access more content. You can also access a FAQ and Help page with various resources continued on page 41
Another impressive aspect of *The World Bank eLibrary* is the information it provides on each record list and page, which is where the real content is anyway. The record lists provide the main citation information needed with an option to view the abstract without navigating away from the list, and each record page provides complete citation information in a clean and organized manner, making it easy to identify. In addition, each record page gives you the option to email the record, download the citation, get citation alerts, and add the record to a favorites folder.

Any library, public or academic, with patrons who have a need to research the most current news, economics, and business trends from around the world would greatly benefit from *The World Bank eLibrary*. And *The World Bank eLibrary* makes incorporation very easy. It can be integrated with almost any library system, it can be indexed in discovery services, institutional branding is available, usage statistics are made readily available, and their MARC records and metadata are easily downloadable. These are only a few of the benefits and services which make *The World Bank eLibrary* library-friendly. For more information, visit the Subscriber Services page: [http://elibrary.worldbank.org/page/subscriber_services](http://elibrary.worldbank.org/page/subscriber_services).