

# Black Studies Center™

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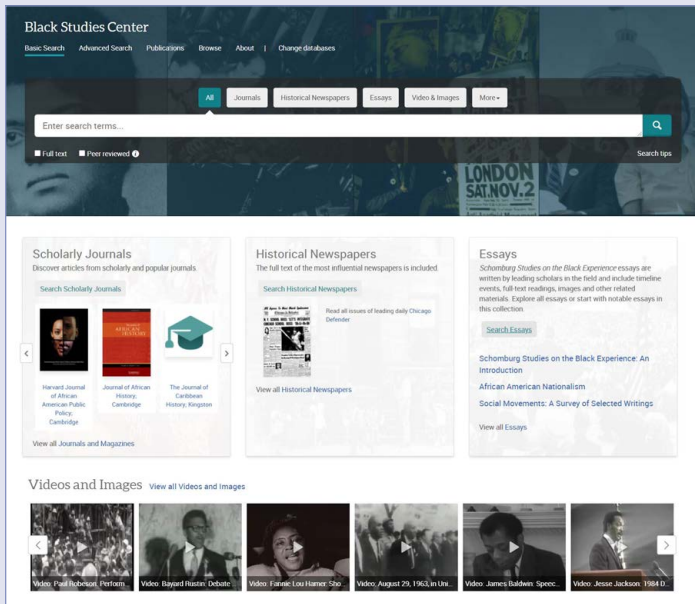


**Black Studies Center** supports research, teaching, and learning in Black Studies and other disciplines such as history, political science, sociology, philosophy, and religion.

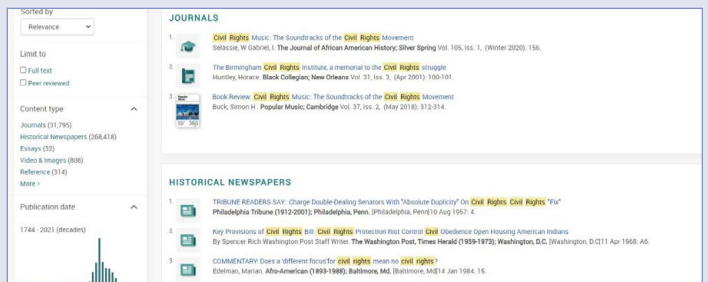
Black Studies Center consists of scholarly journals, magazines, commissioned overview essays by top scholars in Black Studies, historic indexes, and The Chicago Defender newspaper from 1910-1975.

In April 2021, Black Studies Center moved from its legacy Chadwyck-Healey interface, to the powerful, newly enhanced ProQuest Platform. With its clean interface and responsive design, the ProQuest Platform delivers a modern research experience that guides users' discovery, access and management of rich, diverse content sources. In addition to an overall modern research experience, researchers will be able to use multi-faceted results filtering, browse lists of content and download PDFs faster, and use enhanced post-processing tasks, such as citing, saving and sharing materials into workflow tools.

The components of Black Studies Center are described below.



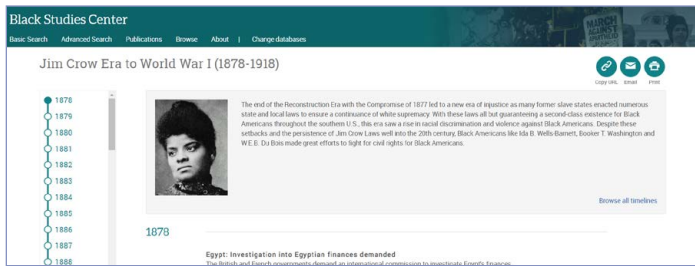
The homepage calls out the major content types in the database. From the home page, researchers can browse journal titles or the Schomburg Essays. They can also navigate to the Historical Newspapers or to videos and images or the timeline.



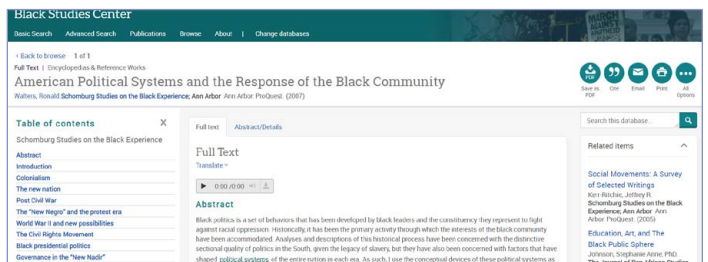
The results page will show segmented research results, by content type. The top three results in each will be displayed, with the ability to view all results in each content type. The filters on the left side of the results page will allow users to narrow their results.

## Schomburg Studies on the Black Experience

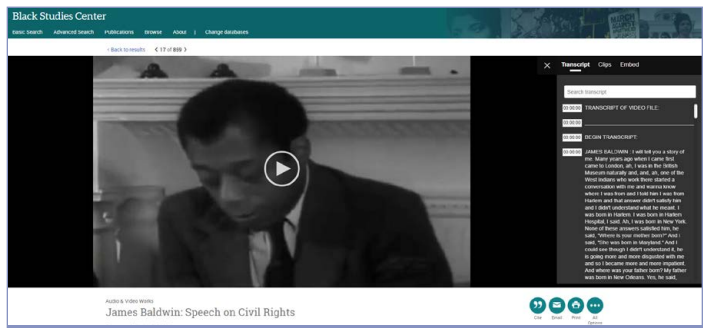
Schomburg Studies on the Black Experience is an essential resource created by collaboration between the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture and ProQuest. Major topics on the African diaspora experience throughout the Americas are examined with in-depth, scholarly essays accompanied by timelines, selected bibliographies with links to full-text articles, and images. The essays were commissioned from leading academic Black Studies scholars who surveyed and analyzed the most important topics and research in their respective fields. The essays are organized into six major topic areas covering theory, ideology, origins, social conditions, cultural life, and social justice.



Black Studies Center includes a timeline that refers to important events in the history of African Americans and the African Diaspora. Here we see the section of the timeline focused on the years from 1878-1918.



This is the view of a portion of an essay in Black Studies Center. Readers can navigate the essay via the table of contents on the left side of the screen. Each essay ends with a list of recommended readings.



Black Studies Center includes 62 videos focused on the period from 1930-1990. The videos primarily consist of speeches, interviews, and news reports pertaining to civil rights issues.

## Black Studies Periodicals (BSP)

Black Studies Periodicals (BSP), formerly known as the International Index to Black Periodicals, is a major periodical database on Black Studies and culture. Black Studies Periodicals has the largest backfile of retrospective bibliographic citations for Black Studies periodicals from as early as 1902. Black Studies Periodicals covers journals and magazines from the United States, African nations, and the Caribbean. Coverage is international in scope and multidisciplinary, spanning cultural, economic, historical, religious, social, and political issues of vital importance to the Black Studies discipline. Black Studies Periodicals includes the full text of over 150 journals and magazines.

Also included as part of the Journals Search is the very first index to Black Studies serials: The Marshall Index, compiled by Albert P. Marshall, a librarian at the State Teachers College in Winston-Salem, North Carolina and first published as a quarterly magazine, A Guide to Negro Periodical Literature, from 1941 to 1946. It covers 42 of the leading African American periodicals between 1940 and 1946. The Marshall Index was published in a revised single-volume print edition by ProQuest in 2002, edited by James Danky and Richard Newman. It is searchable within the journals portion of Black Studies Center.

**Barack Obama's (Im)Perfect Union: An Analysis of the Strategic ...**  
Utley, Ebony; Heyse, Amy L.  
*Western Journal of Black Studies*; Fall 2009; 33, 3; Black Studies Center  
pg. 153

### Barack Obama's (Im)Perfect Union: An Analysis of the Strategic Successes and Failures in His Speech on Race

EBONY UTLEY—CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH  
AMY L. HEYSE—CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH

#### Abstract

In the midst of the Jeremiah Wright controversy, 2008 presidential candidate Barack Obama resolved the political-personal crisis surrounding his racial politics by rhetorically presenting himself as a post-racial candidate. After reviewing the strategies of other African American politicians, we posit that Obama's adoption of race-neutral rhetoric in his March 18, 2008, speech, "A More Perfect Union," was a strategic rhetorical choice at the time. However, we also assert that his post-racial politics were compromised by 1) his presentation of a sanitized version of the United States' history of racial injustice and 2) a tendency to rely on harmful racial stereotypes.

First page of article from the *Western Journal of Black Studies*, one of the journals included in the periodicals section of Black Studies Center.

#### Racial Equality and Sports

Lum, Lydia  
*Diverse Issues in Higher Education*; Sep 3, 2009; 26, 15; Black Studies Center  
pg. 6

spectrum

### Racial Equality and Sports

University of Maryland, College Park students in Dr. Damon Thomas' "Black Masculinity and Basketball" class are usually talkative. A rare exception is when Thomas steers them to the subject of the late Len Bias, a UMD basketball star whose talents captivated sports fans nationally.

Bias died from a cocaine overdose in June 1986, when Thomas' students were either too young to remember or before they were born. Their less-than-chatty demeanor also results from the other cir-

Some students debate how much — or little — things have improved since Bias' death, Thomas says. They quote reports showing UMD had the second-lowest graduation rate — 10 percent — among the 65 teams that qualified for this year's NCAA men's basketball tournament.

"We wind up talking about the education system as a whole," he says. "I want them thinking about how sports can sometimes be the great exception to racial inequality. And, sometimes it's not. Hopefully, stu-

children's basketball games than to parent-teacher conferences.

"These parents saw sports as the way out of the neighborhood," he says.


Thomas titled his dissertation "The Good Negroes: African-American Athletes and the Cultural Cold War, 1945-1968." He is writing a book manuscript based on it.

— Lydia Lum

First page of article from *Diverse Issues in Higher Education*. Black Studies Center includes full text issues from more than 150 periodicals.

## The Chicago Defender

Black Studies Center provides the historical full text of one of the most influential Black newspapers in the United States, The Chicago Defender. Coverage of The Chicago Defender in Black Studies Center is from 1910 to 1975. Robert Sengstacke Abbott founded The Chicago Defender in May 1905, and by the outbreak of the First World War, it had become the most widely read Black newspaper in the country, with more than two thirds of its readership based outside Chicago. When Abbott died in 1940, his nephew John Sengstacke became editor and publisher of The Defender, which began publishing on a daily basis in 1956. The first full-text issue presented here is from January 1, 1910. The newspaper was instrumental in the Great Migration of the early twentieth century, in publicizing lynching in Southern states, and in its use of political cartoons to highlight racial issues. The almost two million full-text records in Chicago Defender offer fantastic coverage of local, national, and international issues, making the Chicago Defender an invaluable archive for researchers.



Black Studies Center includes issue of the Chicago Defender newspaper from 1910-1975. This image shows the document view from a search in the Chicago Defender.

## Black Literature Index

Black Studies Center includes the online index to Black Literature, 1827-1940. Begun at Yale University by Professor John Blassingame and continued by another colleague, Dr. Henry Louis Gates, Jr., the project was completed by Gates at Harvard's W.E.B. DuBois Institute for African and African American Research. Since its release originally as a microfilm collection, the collection has redefined African American literature. Gates described it as rediscovering "a hermetically sealed library of the Afro-American periodical literature after a century of neglect." This index allows users to search over 70,000 bibliographic citations for fiction, poetry and literary reviews published in 110 Black periodicals and newspapers between 1827-1940. Many of the works were published in Black newspapers, and citations from The Chicago Defender are linked to the full-text page article.

## Additional Modules

### ProQuest Historical Black Newspapers

Nine additional historical Black newspapers are available for purchase and when purchased separately can be searched in Black Studies Center. The newspapers are:

- Atlanta Daily World (1932-2003)
- Baltimore Afro-American (1893-1988)
- Cleveland Call and Post (1934-1991)
- Los Angeles Sentinel (1934-2005)
- Michigan Chronicle (1936-2010)
- New York Amsterdam News (1922-1993)
- Norfolk Journal and Guide (1921-2003)
- Philadelphia Tribune (1912-2001)
- Pittsburgh Courier (1911-2002)

These additional newspapers greatly expand the breadth of primary source material in Black Studies Center. Important perspectives on local, regional, and international events throughout the twentieth century create a vast research archive accessible to both novice and experienced researchers. Groundbreaking research has been advanced and enhanced by access to these influential newspapers.

### Multiple Perspectives For In-Depth Study

**Angela Davis.** The Black Studies Center gives researchers single-point access to articles, images, essays, and more, providing a multifaceted look at fascinating people and critical issues. To learn more about Black Power activist, author, and educator Angela Davis, for example, researchers can view more than 800 newspaper articles, including the *Daily Defender's* 1971 five-part story "tracing the life of one of the nation's most surprising revolutionaries" as she sat in jail awaiting trial. Researchers will also find essays, journal articles, and videos pertaining to Angela Davis and the Black Power Movement.

Historical and current; primary and secondary; popular and scholarly; objective fact and subjective context...studies, newspapers, and periodicals...the ever-growing Black Studies Center is ideal for everyone from academic researchers to young people just beginning to explore the field.

### Black Abolitionist Papers

This primary source collection details the extensive work of African Americans to abolish slavery in the United States prior to the Civil War. Covering the period 1830-1865, the collection presents the international impact of African American activism against slavery, in the writings of the activists themselves. The approximately 15,000 articles, documents, correspondence, proceedings, manuscripts, and literary works of almost 300 Black abolitionists show the full range of their activities in the United States, Canada, England, Scotland, Ireland, France and Germany. Black Abolitionist Papers represents a huge effort by a scholarly team, headed by C. Peter Ripley and George E. Carter, who recognized that African Americans were a pivotal and persuasive force in the 19th-century anti-slavery movement. Black Abolitionist Papers is available as a separate purchase and when purchased separately can be searched in Black Studies Center.

**"... BSC is an impressive and valuable database for institutions requiring a variety of resources pertaining to Black Studies, especially institutions with sizeable programs in African American, African, or Ethnic Studies."**

—*Charleston Advisor*, October 2006

### Related Databases, Resource Guides, and Use Cases

The following resource guides and use cases provide ideas for teaching and research projects using ProQuest databases focused on Black Studies topics:

- ProQuest Black Studies information pamphlet [https://webcache.brandmaker.com/189\\_1594366246282.original.html](https://webcache.brandmaker.com/189_1594366246282.original.html)
- Researching the Civil Rights Movement Resource Guide <https://media2.proquest.com/documents/civilright-resourceguides.pdf>
- Black Women and Civic Engagement from Reconstruction through the Jim Crow Era: A Resource Guide [https://webcache.brandmaker.com/1412\\_1614040756008.original.html](https://webcache.brandmaker.com/1412_1614040756008.original.html)
- A. Philip Randolph and the Writing of Civil Rights and Labor History <https://media2.proquest.com/documents/casestudy-gwu.pdf>

**For additional ways ProQuest can help you build diverse, equitable and inclusive collections affordably, explore our **Every Voice** initiative.**



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