LTAM 300 – Issues in Latin American Studies
Library Instruction Session
Claudia Peterson, Reference & Instruction Librarian
Index databases for Latin American Studies

Handbook of Latin American Studies
- **Handbook of Latin American Studies**: [http://lcweb2.loc.gov/hlas/mbquery.html](http://lcweb2.loc.gov/hlas/mbquery.html)
- Selective, annotated bibliography of scholarship on Latin America that has been published since
  the 1930s.
- Each year, more than 5000 items are selected and annotated by 130 Latin American scholars
  (professors and librarians). It's edited by the Hispanic Division of the Library of Congress. The
  print edition of publication alternates between the social sciences and the humanities.
- Estimates: about 60% are monographs, about 40% are journal articles, book chapters,
  conference papers, and e-resources.
- HLAS is available in both print and online in the library. We have all print volumes dating to the
  first, with the most recent one in reference.
- Online, you'll find the bibliographic citations for volumes 1-forward, and introductory essays
  through volume 49.
- Print and online have their respective advantages **Why use the print?** These include invaluable
  introductory essays written by the contributing editors about trends in publishing, research, new
  journals, significant conference presentations, and other areas of interest.
- **SEARCH TIPS**
  - Use basic search or expert search depending on how precise you want to begin
  - Basic, full text search → all parts of the record, don’t need to use precise subject
    headings. Once you find a record, you can search for the item in Catalyst.
  - Advanced search → allows you to select the part of the record you want to search

**HAPI, Hispanic American Periodicals Online**: [http://hapi.ucla.edu.ezproxy.carleton.edu/](http://hapi.ucla.edu.ezproxy.carleton.edu/)
- Citation index with links. Indexes more than 275 journals that consistently cover Latin America,
  they are peer-reviewed and have a consistent publishing history.
- Covers the LAC region as well as Hispanics/Latinos living in the U.S. Dates to 1970.
- Uses a controlled vocabulary (thesaurus). This means the indexers have created a standard
  vocabulary of terms which they use to organize and categorize articles.
- Thesaurus is organized with major headings, sub-headings, and enables cross-referencing as
  well, similar to an index you’d find in any book.
- Thesaurus is in English and then main headings have been translated to Spanish and
  Portuguese.
- Search by entering keywords in any order and enter as many terms as you want in the field
- Use subject searches for more controlled search
- Can start with a keyword search and move to a more controlled search