

Oxford Reference Online: Premium Collection **Now Available To All VIVA Institutions**

VIVA
The Virtual Library of Virginia

PRESS RELEASE
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For brief definitions of terms to lengthy essays on topics in all disciplines, students and faculty at the public and private non-profit colleges and universities in Virginia will find an astoundingly useful reference in VIVA's newest database, *Oxford Reference Online: Premium Collection* (www.oxfordreference.com). This comprehensive and detailed resource provides access to more than 140 dictionaries and reference works published by Oxford University Press. The titles cover virtually all subjects in the humanities, social sciences, business, the sciences, language, and general reference. A quick search under "Native Americans in the Military" for example, provides not only a signed essay from *The Oxford Companion to American Military History* (among other works), but it also gives a bibliography of significant resources and a list of "see" references to related articles in the database, such as "Native American Wars."

Many other features of the *Oxford Reference Online* enhance its usefulness to researchers. Because it covers works published in all disciplines, users can see how different fields treat the same subject, word, or phrase. A linguistics faculty member using the *ORO* for the first time exclaimed that this feature would be "incredibly invaluable" for her students and other researchers in her field. Furthermore, the user can highlight a word or passage in any article, click "cross-reference" at the top, and the database will provide links to articles with that word or words.

VIVA has subscribed to the *Oxford Reference Online* "Premium" collection. In addition to the many titles in the core collection of dictionaries and reference works, Virginia faculty and students will also have access to more than 50,000 in-depth articles from the numerous titles in the "Oxford Companions" series, 20,000 entries from the *Oxford Dictionary of Quotations*, some 5,300 illustrations and maps, timelines, more than 36,000 bibliographies, and 1,400-plus links to websites. The Premium collection is revised and updated regularly. A search function in the database enables users to access results by category. *ORO* joins *OED Online* to provide VIVA researchers with scholarly reference materials in all fields of academic work.

VIVA is a consortium of the libraries of 72 non-profit research or higher education institutions in Virginia, including 39 state-assisted colleges and universities at 55 campuses within the Commonwealth of Virginia, 32 independent private, non-profit institutions, and The Library of Virginia. VIVA's mission is to provide, in an equitable, cooperative, and cost-effective manner, enhanced access to library and information resources for Virginia's academic libraries serving the non-profit higher education community. VIVA is funded by the Commonwealth of Virginia through the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) and by investments from participating institutions.

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http://www.vivalib.org/contact_director.html