Research Guides for Meiji Studies

[Title w/ subtitle
--should make your topic
immediately evident]

compiled by
[your name],
[date submitted],
for Japanese 570H
Fall 2002
Professors Domier and Forrest
A. AREA OF STUDY and RESEARCH TOPIC

[This is where you insert your essay, your revised proposal, that introduces the topic and states the questions that you feel warrant further exploration]

[Define your topic and explain its historical significance (especially in relation to Meiji studies, and to contemporary events/circumstances if possible). You should introduce the basic works and scholars in your field, and note how they address, or fail to address, your specific topic. In doing so, you will identify a research space for the project you have been building a bibliography for. Ideally a prospective user of your Pathfinder/Research Bibliography will be able to use your work almost an assignment, describing a question needing answering and giving the sources, from the most basic to the most difficult, most useful in discovering the answer.]

B. FUNDAMENTAL SOURCES

1. Background Readings (UMass holdings --including online materials-- only):

[List here books and articles (encyclopedia entries, survey histories, etc) you recommend for introductory reading. Keep this section focussed and short, probably 4-8 items. Provide full citations, UMass call numbers, and brief annotation]

2. Specialized Monographs, Series, and Articles (UMass holdings --including online materials-- marked *)

[This is where you main (ex-working) bibliography goes. Use subcategories if you think it helps (discuss this with us first). Provide full citations, UMass call numbers where appropriate, and brief annotation--either the uses of the item, or, if you have not seen it, where you found the reference and why you are including it.]
[Summaries – subpage/separate page: prepare a full summary of one (two for graduate students) of the items in this section; we will make the entry a link leading to a new page with your detailed summary, which is effectively annotation writ large.]

3. Primary Sources (UMass holdings marked; location/access to other items indicated where known)

[here you should list any collections or specific items which would be worth consulting for a scholar interested in your topic. The items may be published (a zenshû 全集 for example), or they may be in a special/rare books collection somewhere. If you are working on a particular person, there is probably an archive, museum, or university library with concentrated holdings; it is worth digging for (grad. students especially need to delve here). Any primary sources available online (for example through the NDL collection, or Aozora, etc.) are especially useful).

4. Reference Tools (UMass holdings or personally owned items only)

[select any relevant dictionaries, bibliographies, and handbooks (limit to 3-5 items overall).

Again provide full citations and call numbers, and annotate (brief outline summary of RELEVANT contents). If you have not found a nenpu 年譜 or nenpyô 年表 specific to your topic, you might also include a general nenpyô here.]

C. FURTHER RESOURCES

1. Indexes

[List those of the indexes (Historical Abstracts, MLA Bibliography, BAS, Zasshi Kiji Sakuin, Citations, etc.) which had a significant number of articles on your topic (and are likely to have more as time goes by). Annotate with accession method (e.g. bound or online, online but subscription only, etc. ]

2. Internet Links

[Provide titles and links to relevant Internet sites; at least two should be annotated]
3. Library Catalog Subject Headings
[list here accurate subject headings from the online catalogs you have used (e.g. UMass or Waseda); note LC-call number ranges of most interest (e.g. DS 865…, etc.)]

4. Keywords (for search engines and library catalogs)
[list here selected keywords that helped you to locate appropriate resources, and which will probably uncover any newer items published after this guide]

5. Active Researchers in this field (writing in Japanese and in other languages)
[list here 1-3 active scholars, or institutions, with affiliation/contact address (university or publishing company, etc.)]

6. Comparative Fields and Topics
[list here any areas of research you have come across that, while not dealing directly with your topic, might offer methodological insight in performing similar studies on different subjects. Some items may appear also as articles or monographs earlier in your bibliography.]