

**Association for Diplomatic Studies & Training.** *Access:* <https://adst.org/>.

The Association for Diplomatic Studies & Training (ADST) is a 503(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded in 1986 by retired U.S. Foreign Service officers committed to “strengthening public appreciation of diplomacy’s contribution to America’s national interests.” ADST fulfills its mission by “capturing, preserving, and sharing the experiences of America’s diplomats.”

To this end, ADST runs the world’s largest collection of U.S. diplomatic oral histories—more than 2,500 interviews with ambassadors, Foreign Service officers, and spouses. About 60 new oral histories are added annually. Interviews are impressively detailed, running 50-to-200 pages. The database tool is a simple webpage that lists each oral history alphabetically by surname and links to PDF transcripts of each interview. Transcripts are fully searchable. The site’s search tool is powered by Google. Everything is free to read, download, and keep forever. The collection’s chief limitation is that it does not allow for browsing or limiting by chronology, service branch, or any other filters. Compensating somewhat for this limitation, ADST groups together oral histories that capture the experiences of African American, Latino, and female diplomats.

In addition to its oral history collection, ADST offers a wide array of learning resources. With more than 800 posts so far, the blog “Moments in U.S. Diplomatic History” distills historical events, topics, and illuminating anecdotes of diplomatic life, building on the oral histories. New blog posts are published weekly. Posts range from the academic “Operation Sapphire: Nuclear Diplomacy

in Kazakhstan” to the droll “Consular Tales from Croatia—The Good, the Bad, and the Bianca Jagger.” Posts are tagged and users can browse by category, including a category for “humorous.” ADST also provides a secondary blog series on “fascinating figures” (diplomats with especially compelling Foreign Service stories), a podcast entitled “Poor Richard’s Podcast: Tales of American Diplomacy,” and lesson plans and sample student projects for teachers.

In short, ADST delivers unique and wide-ranging resources on U.S. diplomatic history. These resources support the intellectual and professional growth of scholars, high school and college students, Foreign Service officers at all career stages, and curious members of the public. Most gratifying of all is the ADST’s whimsical logo: a portrait of America’s first diplomat, Benjamin Franklin, rocking aviator sunglasses. Recommended for anyone interested in U.S. diplomacy.—*Michael Rodriguez, University of Connecticut, michaelr@uconn.edu*

**Bureau of Economic Affairs.** *Access:* <https://bea.gov>.

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) is an arm of the U.S. Department of Commerce and is best known for analyzing our country’s gross domestic product. BEA currently collects more than 10,000 data points each month. Quarterly data goes back to 1947, while annual data can reach to 1929. This website covers a multitude of data and analytical reports on domestic economic activity across the United States as well as transborder activity with other countries. BEA’s website is a rich collection of macroeconomic and industry data within geographies ranging from counties, metropolitan areas, individual states, multistate regions, the entire nation, or economic interactions between the United States and other countries. Similar to many of the statistical gathering units within federal agencies, the vast majority of BEA’s resources are quickly downloadable as either spreadsheets or PDF files,

---

Joni R. Roberts is associate university librarian for public services and collection development at Willamette University, email: [jroberts@willamette.edu](mailto:jroberts@willamette.edu), and Carol A. Drost is associate university librarian for technical services at Willamette University, email: [cdrost@willamette.edu](mailto:cdrost@willamette.edu)

while graphical presentations can be downloaded via three file type options.

Seven thematic tabs are displayed at the top of the homepage, five of which are relevant to college students: “Data” (three major ways of categorizing underlying resources), “Tools” (seven ways of finding and extracting data or reports), “News” (recently published reports or data sets, chronological lists of upcoming and available documents, and a blog for interested users), “Research” (information about BEA researchers, as well as collections of reports authored by BEA staff or guests), and “Help” (contact information of subject specialists who can field questions, an excellent glossary, and a FAQ).

The best starting point is the “Tools” tab, which offers easy-to-use data extraction systems, along with a video that walks users through the customization process. After viewing that video, this researcher generated dozens of maps and time series spreadsheets for various geographies and topics in quick succession.

On the far right of the seven tabbed options is an omnibus keyword search box, which can locate datasets, periodic reports, and ad-hoc analytical reports.

BEA provides an “Ask An Expert” option of submitting help inquiries, but there is no indication of typical turnaround times.

Like many data warehouses, the difficult task is knowing which federal agency can fulfill a specific need. BEA should be researchers first choice for finding domestic macroeconomics data or U.S. cross-border economic data. With 90 years of time series data, BEA is an excellent resource for any statistics course or lab.—Gary Klein, Willamette University, [gklein@willamette.edu](mailto:gklein@willamette.edu)

**Ernest Hemingway Collection.** *Access:* <https://www.jfklibrary.org/archives/ernest-hemingway-collection>.

The Ernest Hemingway Collection contains Hemingway’s personal papers and photos. They were donated by Mary Welsh Hemingway, his widow. The collection spans his career and contains “ninety percent of known Hemingway manuscript materials,

making the Library the world’s principal center for research on the life and work of this author.” The collection is housed in the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum.

According to the website, highlights of the collection are more than 10,000 photographs; a first handwritten draft of *The Sun Also Rises*; family scrapbooks, including one compiled by the writer’s grandparents that chronicles his life from birth through his teens; his personal collection of bullfighting material; logs from the fishing boat Pilar; and books from his private library. The primary sections of the website that are devoted to his material are “Textual Materials,” “Audiovisual Materials,” and “Media Galleries.”

The website points users to a finding aid, which is really a list of all archive boxes and the material contained within. The box contents are meticulously labeled and listed. For example, Box BK01 contains a listing of all books owned by Ernest Hemingway and Box MS10 contains the manuscript of *For Whom the Bell Tolls* with notations and corrections. It appears that one can only search the collection through the general “archives” search and not the Hemingway collection only. Buried in the website is a LibGuide on the collection. The few items that are digitized are photos. These photos are from 1899 until 1960. The photos are arranged thematically, so one can view images of “Hemingway and His Cats” or “Paris Years 1922–1930.” Unfortunately, little else from the collection is available to view online.

While the collection is a thorough compilation of all things personal to Hemingway, its purpose as an online research tool is limited by the content’s availability. Is this a great collection? Yes. Is the website a place to conduct research before visiting the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum? Yes. Is this a website to research Hemingway’s manuscripts? No. Hopefully, they will digitize more so researchers can view the material without having to travel to Boston.—Delores Carlito, University of Alabama-Birmingham, [dcarlito@uab.edu](mailto:dcarlito@uab.edu) 