

# 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Century Encyclopedism

## Resource Guide

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Editions of Diderot's *Encyclopédie*, Chambers *Cyclopædia* (and related material)  
in the Sheridan Libraries

The desire to gather all the world's knowledge into one book is as old as civilization itself. The period of **The Enlightenment** gave birth to many such enterprises, as the rapid expansion of scholarship made it impossible to keep up with the increase in publishing and the numbers of original sources to consult. Drawing on the tradition of commonplace books, and responding to a need for easy access to a compendium of knowledge, encyclopedias flourished during the late 17<sup>th</sup> and throughout the 18<sup>th</sup> centuries.

The Sheridan Libraries own important editions of these pivotal works, including Diderot's *Encyclopédie*, and its predecessors such as Chambers' *Cyclopædia*, as well as its successors such as the *Encyclopédie Méthodique*.

**This guide is in six parts:**

1. Editions of Chambers' *Cyclopædia*
2. Editions of Diderot's *Encyclopédie*
3. Editions of other 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century encyclopedias
4. Artifacts and specialized teaching resources
5. Selected Bibliography of Secondary materials
6. Relevant Electronic Resources and Web sites

### **Editions of Chambers' *Cyclopædia***

**Cyclopædia: or, an universal dictionary of arts and sciences.** The whole intended as a course of ancient and modern learning. E. Chambers. 2 volumes. Chambers called his work "the best book in the universe." It would, he said, "answer all the Purposes of a Library."

London : Printed for D. Midwinter, 1741. (4<sup>th</sup> edition)

*Special Collections:* AE 5 .C44

**Cyclopædia: or, an universal dictionary of arts and sciences.** The whole intended as a course of ancient and modern learning. E. Chambers. 2 volumes

London : Printed for W. Innys, et al, 1751 (7<sup>th</sup> edition)

*Special Collections:* AE 5 .C43 1751 FOLIO

**Dizionario universale delle arti e delle scienze.** Efraimo Chambers. 9 volumes  
Venice : Presso Giambatista Pasquali, 1749.  
*Institute of the History of Medicine: R.B.R. .C4446c 1749*

**Supplemento** di Giorgio Lewis al Dizionario universale delle arti e scienze di Efraimo Chambers. 6 volumes  
Venice : Per Giambatista Pasquali, 1765  
*Institute of the History of Medicine: R.B.R. .C4446s 1765*

## **Editions of Diderot's Encyclopédie**

**Encyclopédie, ou, Dictionnaire raisonée** des sciences, des arts et des métiers: par une société de gens de letters. M. Diderot et M. d'Alembert. 17 volumes  
Paris : Briasson, 1751-65 (Original edition)  
*George Peabody Library: Rare Books Room, 034 D555 QUARTO*

**Encyclopédie, ou, Dictionnaire raisonée** des sciences, des arts et des métiers: par une société de gens de letters. M. Diderot et M. d'Alembert. Reprint of the Paris edition by Charles-Joseph Panckoucke. 17 volumes  
Geneva : Printed by Gabriel Cramer, 1772  
*Special Collections: AE 25 .E53 1772 FC*

**Encyclopédie, ou, Dictionnaire raisonée** des sciences, des arts et des métiers. 36 volumes  
Geneva : Pellet, 1777-79  
*Special Collections: AE 25 .E53 1777*

**Encyclopédie, ou, Dictionnaire raisonée** des sciences, des arts et des métiers. 36 volumes  
Lausanne et Berne : Sociétés Typographiques, 1779-82  
*Special Collections: AE 25 .E53 1779*

**Encyclopédie, ou, Dictionnaire raisonée** des sciences, des arts et des métiers. **Table analytique** et raisonée des matières continues dans les 39 volumes in-quarto du Dictionnaire des sciences, des arts et de métiers.  
Lyon : 1780-81  
*Special Collections: AE 25 .E53 1777 table*

**Table analytique et raisonée** des matières conetenues dans les 33 volumes in-folio du Dictionnaire des sciences, des arts et des métiers et dans son supplement. Pierre Mouchon. 2 volumes  
Paris : Chez Panckoucke, 1780  
*George Peabody Library: Rare Books Room, 035 D555 QUARTO*

Encyclopédie. **Recueil de planches**, sur les sciences, les arts libéraux, et les arts mécaniques. 11 volumes

Geneva, 1772-76

*Special Collections:* AE 25 .E53 1772 FC

Encyclopédie. **Recueil de planches**, pour la nouvelle édition du Dictionnaire raisonné des sciences, des arts, et des métiers. 3 volumes

Geneva : Pellet, 1777-79

*Special Collections:* AE 25 .E53 1777 Atlas

Encyclopédie. **Recueil de planches**, pour la nouvelle édition du Dictionnaire raisonné des sciences, des arts, et des métiers. 3 volumes

Lausanne et Berne : Sociétés Typographiques, 1780-82

*Special Collections:* AE 25 .E53 1779 Atlas

**Encyclopédie, ou, Dictionnaire raisonnée** des sciences, des arts et des métiers: par une société de gens de lettres. M. Diderot et M. d'Alembert. Microprint edition. 35 volumes in 5 volumes

New York : Readex Microprint Co., 1969

*General Reference:* AE 25 .E53 1751f FOLIO

**Encyclopédie de Diderot et d'Alembert:** 4 CD-ROM's (circulating); of the original edition published in Paris, including 17 volumes of text, 4 supplemental volumes, 2 volumes of tables, 13 volumes of plates, and 50,000 articles.

*Audio/Visual Center:* COMP FILE 2560

## **Editions of other notable 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century encyclopedias**

Le grand dictionnaire historique, ou, Le mélange curieux de l'histoire sacrée et profane... **Louis Moréri**. Originally published 1674 in 1 volume. Moréri's encyclopedia was an immediate success, and went through more than 20 editions by 1759.

1701 English translation, The great historical, geographical, genealogical and poetical dictionary. 2 volumes, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition in English

*Special Collections:* D 9 .M84 1701 FOLIO

1702 edition. 4 volumes, 10<sup>th</sup> edition

*Special Collections:* D 9 .M83 1702 FOLIO

1732 edition (Paris). 6 volumes, 19<sup>th</sup> edition

*Special Collections:* D 9 .M83 1732 FOLIO

1740 edition (Amsterdam), the edition owned by Voltaire. 8 volumes, 22<sup>nd</sup> edition

*George Peabody Library:* Rare Books 903 M843b QUARTO

Dictionnaire universel, contenant generalement tous les mots françois, tant vieux que modernes, et les termes des sciences et des arts. Antoine **Furetière**. First published in 1690 in The Hague. A rival publication to the Académie Française's Dictionnaire, Furetière's work was more than a lexicon; it was an all-embracing reference work, including information on natural history, religion, medicine, the arts.

1727 (last) edition. 4 volumes

*Special Collections:* PH 619 .F99 1727 FOLIO

Dictionnaire des arts et des sciences. Thomas **Corneille**. 1694, 2 volumes. Designed to supplement the Académie Française's dictionary so that it could compete with Furetière's recently published Dictionnaire universel, which it resembles in content and structure.

*D Level Stacks:* PC 2620 .C6 1968 FOLIO (Reprint)

Dictionnaire historique et critique. Pierre **Bayle**. 1697, 2 volumes. Originally conceived as a response to the errors in Moréri's *Grand dictionnaire*, it grew in scope and was called the "Arsenal of the Enlightenment". Bayle painstakingly compiled, compared, questioned, always seeking some degree of historical certainty, however small. 8 French editions in 50 years, with 2 English translations and 1 German.

1820, 11<sup>th</sup> (last) edition. 16 volumes

*George Peabody Library:* 920.01 B358 1820

Projet et fragmens d'un dictionnaire critique. Bayle's preliminary work to the Dictionnaire

*Special Collections:* CT 95 .B35 1692 C

Grosses vollständiges Universal-Lexicon aller Wissenschaftten und Künste. Johann Heinrich **Zedler**. 64 volumes, 1732-50. One of the largest and best encyclopedias ever completed. Zedler ran into opposition in publishing his work from publishers and booksellers who feared so comprehensive and up-to-date a work would discourage the sale of all other books. The first encyclopedia to include living people.

*George Peabody Library:* Rare Books 903 Z43 QUARTO

The cyclopaedia, or, Universal dictionary of arts, sciences, and literature. **Abraham Rees**. 5 volumes, 1778. Originally conceived as an updating and enlargement of Chambers' Cyclopaedia, this work was in fact more than merely a revised edition. Rees added many plates and expanded the subjects covered. It first appeared in weekly installments from 1778 to 1785.

1810 edition, first American edition. 41 volumes, and 6 volumes of plates.

*Special Collections:* AE 5 .R32 1810 QUARTO (Johns Hopkins' copy)

Encyclopédie, ou, Dictionnaire universel raisonné des connoissances humaines. Mis en ordre par Fortuné Barthélemy de **Félice**. Published in **Yverdon**, Switzerland. 42 volumes, 6 volumes Supplement, and 10 volumes of plates, 1775-80. While directly borrowing a number of articles from Diderot's work, this successor, which began to appear even before the last volumes of the Encyclopédie were delivered, added much new material. It also deviates from its predecessor in its religious slant, Félice being a former priest and Protestant convert.

*Special Collections:* AE 25 .E56 1770C (Same call number for Plates and Supplement)

Encyclopédie Méthodique, ou par order de matières. Number of volumes vary according to binding, 1781-1832. Charles **Panckoucke's** attempt to update Diderot's work. Arranged by subject, rather than alphabetically, the work took over 50 years to complete, spanning the years of the French Revolution, and ran to 200 volumes.

*George Peabody Library:*  
vary according to the part)

*Rare Books 034 .E56...*(last part of call number will

## **Artifacts and specialized teaching resources**

**L'esprit de L'encyclopédie, ou, Choix des articles les plus agréables, les plus curieux et les plus piquans de ce grand dictionnaire.** A set of 12 volumes from 1798, all in **original paper wrappers**, with paper spine labels. A striking illustration of the physical state of books as they were sold and bought in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, as well as the popularization of the Encyclopédie.

*Cage AE4.E56 1799*

### **Leaves from Johnson's Dictionary of the English language**

Several individual, loose, leaves from a folio edition of the dictionary. Handmade paper. watermarks, 18<sup>th</sup> century typography are easily illustrated with these leaves.

*Cage, with teaching materials*

### **Copper engraved plates.**

Examples of how most book illustrations were made in the 18<sup>th</sup> century:

- John Knox's house, early c20. Line-engraved.
- Reliquary of St Martha/Holy family, French, c18. Line-engraved.

*Cage, with teaching materials*

### **Type and Composing Sticks / Galley tray and Furniture**

Artifacts from hand-press printing, illustrating how books were printed in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

*Cage, with teaching materials*

## **Selected bibliography of secondary materials**

Enlightening the world : Encyclopédie, the book that changed the course of history. Philipp Blom. *AE 25 .E6 B58 2005*

The Business of Enlightenment: a publishing history of the Encyclopédie, 1775-1800. Robert Darnton. *AE 25 .A6 D371 1979*

Notable encyclopedias of the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries: nine predecessors of the Encyclopédie.  
Frank Kafker. (Studies on Voltaire and the 18<sup>th</sup> century, vol. 194)  
*Moravia Park: PQ 2105 .A2 S8*

Notable encyclopedias of the late 18th century : eleven successors of the Encyclopédie. edited by  
Frank A. Kafker. (Studies on Voltaire and the 18<sup>th</sup> century, vol. 315) *PQ 2105 .A2 S8 v.315*

Using the Encyclopédie : ways of knowing, ways of reading. edited by Daniel Brewer and Julie  
Candler Hayes. *AE 25 .E6 U85 2002*

Blueprint : a study of Diderot and the Encyclopédie plates. Stephen Werner.  
*AE 25.E6 W47 1993*

Table analytique et raisonnée des matieres contenues dans les XXXIII volumes in-folio du  
Dictionnaire des sciences, des arts et des métiers et dans son supplément. Pierre Mouchon.  
*George Peabody Library, Rare Books 034 D555 QUARTO*

Inventory of Diderot's Encyclopédie. Richard Schwab. (Studies on Voltaire and the 18<sup>th</sup>  
century, vol.'s 80, 83, 85, 91, 92, 93, 223) *Moravia Park PQ 2105 .A2 S8*

L'encyclopédie Diderot et d'Alembert : planches et commentaires. présentés par Jacques Proust.  
*Moravia Park: AE 25.E53 A2 1985 QUARTO*

"A solution to the multitude of books: Ephraim Chambers's *Cyclopaedia* (1728) as "the best  
book in the Universe". by Richard Yeo  
(**Online article** from Project MUSE)  
[http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal\\_of\\_the\\_history\\_of\\_ideas/v064/64.1yeo.pdf](http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_the_history_of_ideas/v064/64.1yeo.pdf)

"Ephraim Chambers's Cyclopaedia (1728) and the Tradition of Commonplaces". by Richard Yeo  
(**Online article** from Project MUSE)  
[http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal\\_of\\_the\\_history\\_of\\_ideas/v057/57.1yeo.html](http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_the_history_of_ideas/v057/57.1yeo.html)

L'Encyclopédie méthodique (1782-1832): des Lumières au Positivisme.  
*AE 25 .E512E53 2006*

Le "Dictionnaire" de Bayle et la lutte philosophique au XVIIIe siècle. Pierre Rétat.  
*Moravia Park: B 1825 .D53 R47 1971*

Encyclopaedic visions: scientific dictionaries and Enlightenment culture. Richard Yeo.  
*AE 1 .Y46 2001*

Encyclopedias: their history throughout the ages. Robert Collison. *AE 1 .C6 1964*

## Relevant Electronic Resources and Web sites

**L'Encyclopédie Électronique:** an ongoing project from ARTFL (University of Chicago) to digitize all the text and plate volumes of Diderot's Encyclopédie.

<http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/efts/ARTFL/projects/encyc/>

**The Encyclopédie of Diderot: a collaborative translation project.** No complete English translation of the Encyclopédie has ever been printed. This is a Web site that is being built by volunteers (à la Wikipedia), where English translations are added by faculty and other specialists.

<http://quod.lib.umich.edu/d/did/>

**Dictionnaire historique et critique,** by Pierre Bayle: another ARTFL project. A digital version of the 1740 Amsterdam edition.

<http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/efts/ARTFL/projects/dicos/BAYLE/>

**Chamber's Cyclopaedia.** Full text searching of the 2 volumes of the first edition (1728), and the 2 volume Supplement (1753).

<http://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/HistSciTech.Cyclopaedia>

**cyclopaedia.org:** "Dedicated to the 1728 "CYCLOPAEDIA" of Ephraim Chambers as well as the spin off publications and Encyclopaedias that evolved out of Chambers's original Cyclopaedia or Universal Dictionary."

<http://www.cyclopaedia.org/>

**Encyclopédie de Diderot et d'Alembert:** 4 CD-ROM's (circulating); of the original edition published in Paris, including 17 volumes of text, 4 supplemental volumes, 2 volumes of tables, 13 volumes of plates, and 50,000 articles.

*Audio/Visual Center: COMP FILE 2560*

**Dictionnaires des XVI<sup>e</sup> et XVII<sup>e</sup> siècles.** A CD-ROM containing the text of 10 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century dictionaries, including Furetière and Thomas Corneille.

*Audio/Visual Center: COMP FILE 1602*

**Dictionnaire historique des arts, métiers et professions exercés dans Paris depuis le treizième siècle:** contains explanations and the history of every conceivable occupation found in France and French Canada throughout the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries.

*Audio/Visual Center: COMP FILE 2805*

**Grand dictionnaire universel du XIXe siècle:** DVD version of the original Larousse encyclopedia.

*Audio/Visual Center: DVD-ROM 1*

**Encyclopædia Britannica online.**

<http://search.eb.com/>

**Other Resource Guides available:**

The Scholar's Bookshelf : The Middle Ages  
Samuel Johnson and his Dictionary  
French Theater Collections  
Manuscript Books in The Sheridan Libraries

*Forthcoming:*

*German Theater Collections*

*Dante*

*Don Quixote*

*The Scholar's Bookshelf : The Renaissance*

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