

globalEDGE. Access: <https://globaledge.msu.edu>.

Rich in resources for business research, globalEDGE is a gateway to reports, data, and rankings sourced from an array of U.S. government agencies, international and non-governmental organizations, and Michigan State University (MSU). The website was officially launched in 2001 by the International Business Center and the Eli Broad College of Business at MSU and has received funding from a U.S. Department of Education grant.

globalEDGE features dropdown menu navigation allowing users to focus on country or state research, moving from basic overview information into linked profiles from U.S. government sources, the BBC, and the World Bank. Statistics cover demographics, energy, and economy with clear attribution to the agencies and organizations they are drawn from. Visual representation is provided with a five-year graphic representation of most economic data. The indices option pulls rankings and scores from such organizations as Transparency International, Freedom House, and World Economic Forum. Interactive heat maps give visual perspective for comparing countries. globalEDGE also offers country risk ratings sourced from Coface. Industry-focused research options include overviews of broad sectors, trade statistics, top corporations including basic financials, tradeshow listings, and links to regulatory agencies and industry associations. Links to major consulting firm websites like Deloitte and KPMG point to their excellent industry resources. Students will like the “Memo” feature with its synopsis of country, state or industry information in a single-page PDF.

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

Additional tools available through the site include Database of International Business Statistics, which allows users to build tables pulling countries and indicators into downloadable CSV files. Access to this database requires free registration for individuals with institutional email addresses. The Market Potential Index is an ongoing study from MSU that measures potential of the world’s largest economies, providing both current and past analysis. “Comparator Tool” (Country Comparator) uses World Bank data as a framework for comparing economic indicators between countries via a build-it-yourself tool. “Interactive Rankings” features country and state mapping of economic, social, and infrastructure indicators. Online course modules from the International Business Center of MSU focus on international marketing insights.

As a source for good tutorials on international business and as a platform for researching countries and industries, globalEDGE is a topnotch academic resource, particularly for MBA students and faculty.—*Ann Flower, Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey, aflower@miis.edu*

National Women’s Law Center. Access: <https://nwlc.org/>.

Founded in 1972, the National Women’s Law Center (NWLC) is one of the pre-eminent women’s rights organizations in the United States. It promotes and advocates for policies and laws that benefit women and their families.

The site provides a variety of information that is accessed through the tabs that run across the top of the entry page. The tabs are: “Issues,” “State by State,” “The Latest,” “Press Room,” “About,” “Take Action,” and a button to make a donation to the organization.

“Issues” provides a dropdown menu listing the various concerns that NWLC is involved with, including “Child Care and Early Learning,” “Education and Title IX,” “Health Care and Reproductive Rights,” “Racial and Ethnic

Justice,” and “Workplace.” Each of these topics then leads to the various subheadings under that category. There is an “Overview” for each topic. And, using “Workplace” as an example, there are several subtopics, including “Child Care Workforce,” “Equal Pay and the Wage Gap,” and “Fair Work Schedules.”

“State by State” accesses a series of maps that display statistical information as to how women fare in each state in areas such as economics, health care, and other policies and practices.

“The Latest” compiles current activities using the topics listed under “Issues,” including discussions of how the new personal income tax will be further detrimental to women and families, how the Trump administration’s policies have an impact on women’s health care, and how judicial appointments are a factor affecting women’s legal rights.

“Press Room,” as its name implies, contains press releases from the organization, as well as public relations contact information for those wishing to interview or speak with NWLC’s resident experts.

“About” contains information about the organization itself, including its history, organizational structure, staff, contact information, and finances and annual reports.

“Take Action” provides advice on pending issues and governmental actions, such as pending bills, political appointments, and executive actions, and advises how to advocate for laws, procedures, and public officials who will promote progressive, pro-women policies.

The site is searchable, with search results filtered by the issues, resource types, and page types.

Recommended for students and scholars researching women’s legal rights and their impact on American culture and politics.—*Ford Schmidt, Willamette University, fschmidt@willamette.edu*

The PEN America Digital Archive. *Access:* <https://archive.pen.org/>.

PEN America is the largest chapter of PEN International, an organization that seeks to promote and preserve freedom of expression

and literature. This online archive contains audio and video from lectures, panels, and discussions collected since the PEN America Archive’s beginnings in 1966, and it is freely and openly available via the Web. The primary source material made available by this resource features some arguably huge voices in literature, culture, and thought, speaking about and reading literature in the context of the times in which they lived. Some of these voices include Betty Friedan, Amiri Baraka, Allen Ginsberg, Jeanette Winterson, Johnathan Lethem, and others. There are approximately 516 audio and 300 video recordings, which total more than 1500 hours.

The site provides two main ways of searching the collection: an index and an advanced search tool. The index allows visitors to browse the collection by recording title; by the authors of, or participants in, a recording, or by subject heading. The advanced search tool allows you to search by keyword and filter by recording date, genre of event recorded, type of participant, location, and media type. The filters work independently of whether a keyword is entered, which is good, since with a collection of 816 items, the search scope can be limiting at times unless users know what they’re looking for. This filtering function also adds to the site’s browsability, which is a plus for those who are unfamiliar with the collection’s contents, or for those who love literature and wish to spend time sifting through the recordings to see what they can find. One downside to the collection is the apparent absence of recording transcripts, which might aid users who are hearing impaired.

The list of college majors that may benefit from the use of this resource is wider than one might think. English and Communications are two obvious choices, but students in a Gender Studies program might find material that is both instructive and historically relevant, as would any program with a focus on human rights and social justice. The collection also offers material on playwriting, politics, art history, and international literature, among other subjects.—*Patrick Wohlmut, Linfield College, pwohlmut@linfield.edu* 🐉