

Online catalogues

These online catalogues provide invaluable information about book production and library holdings for a given period or region. Many are nationally based while others are the product of consortia or research groups.

(Descriptions are from information provided by the sites.)

Early printing

[Bayerische Staatsbibliothek Inkunabelkatalog \(BSB\)](#)

The largest single incunabula collection worldwide, with 20.337 copies of 9782 different editions. Accepts searches by BSB nos., GW nos., ISTC nos. VE15 nos., etc.

[Bod-Inc Online](#)

Bodleian Library's collection of incunabula (>5600 different editions in >7000 copies).

[BP16 - Bibliographie des éditions parisiennes du 16e siècle](#)

With a selection digitised images of Printer's marks.

[EDIT 16 - Census of Italian 16th Century Editions](#)

EDIT 16 aims at documenting Italian books printed during the 16th century; includes editions printed in Italy between 1501 and 1600, in any language, and editions printed abroad in Italian.

ESTC - English Short Title Catalogue

The English Short Title Catalogue “Lists over 480,000 items published between 1473 and 1800, mainly, but not exclusively, in English, published mainly in the British Isles and North America. From the collections of the British Library and over 2,000 other libraries.

Gesamtkatalog der Wiegendrucke (GW)

[Union Catalogue of Incunabula Database] Lists 15th century prints in German libraries.

Heritage of the Printed Book Database (HPB)

Managed by CERL. The Heritage of the Printed Book Database (previously called the Hand Press Book Database) is a steadily growing collection of files of catalogue records from major European and North American research libraries covering items of European printing of the hand-press period (c.1455-c.1830) integrated into one file.

ISTC - Incunabula Short Title Catalogue

The Incunabula Short Title Catalogue is the international database of 15th-century European printing created by the British Library with contributions from institutions worldwide.

Material Evidence in Incunabula (MEI)

MEI is a database specifically designed to record and search the material evidence (or copy specific, post-production evidence and provenance information) of 15th-century printed books: ownership, decoration, binding, manuscript annotations, stamps, prices, etc. MEI is linked to the Incunabula Short Title Catalogue (ISTC), provided by the British Library, from which it derives the

bibliographical records, and it allows the user at last to combine searches of bibliographical records (extracted from ISTC) with copy specific records.

USTC – Universal Short Title Catalogue

Books published in Europe between the invention of printing and the mid-seventeenth century, and expanding.

VD 16 – Germany

Register of printed works of the 16th century published in German-speaking countries.

VD 17 - Germany

Union Catalogue of Books Printed in German Speaking Countries in the 17th Century.

VD 18 - Germany

This database contains the records of all monographs and journals which have been catalogued in the project "Digitisation and Indexing of Printed Material Published in the 18 th Century in the German-Speaking Areas (VD 18)" since 2009. Via the catalogue entry in the VD18-database you can access the digital reproduction of the respective print on the website of the library which catalogued and digitized the work in the context of the VD18-project.

Manuscripts

As for early printed works, manuscripts are included in many general national and research catalogues, yet there are also several specialised online catalogues for manuscripts.

ESPAÇO ATLÂNTIDA

CERL - Catalogues of manuscripts from individual collections

CERL provides a descriptive listing of catalogues for several major European libraries

Philobiblon

PORT : https://bancroft.berkeley.edu/philobiblon/index_po.html

More specifically pertinent for Portuguese students of book history and reading is Philobiblon, a collective historical catalog of “Romance language sources of medieval Iberian culture and early Renaissance.” Covers manuscripts and print written in Português, Galego, Español e Català.

Schoenberg Database of Manuscripts

The Schoenberg Database of Manuscripts from the University of Pennsylvania gathers data about pre-modern manuscripts from catalogues and inventories of institutions, sales, and private collections from around the world.