I. Historical Stocks and Catalogues

The following chapter provides you an initial overview to your research possibilities using the historical stocks of the library. A list of other important manuscripts and printed catalogues can be found online on the homepage of the library. There you will also find the appropriate catalogue of the Erfurt University Library that could be relevant for your research. In addition, a detailed catalogue overview with the listings of the Gotha Research Library is to be found in the handbook of the historical book stocks.

Please consider that the research bibliography of the University and Research Library Erfurt/Gotha, factual database and full text archive that you will find via the database info system (DBIS), can also be used for your research. Also, you can access the electronic journals (EZB).

Especially relevant research material or frequently used pieces of the historical libraries stocks are available in digital form and can be accessed through the digital historical library Erfurt/Gotha. The titles are also listed and linked in the online catalogue.

Catalogue of the Manuscript Collections of the Gotha Research Library

Medieval Manuscripts

The medieval manuscripts of the Gotha Research Library were originated between the 8th and 15th centuries. They originate from the property of the Ernestinian family as well as from acquisitions of Duke Ernst I and Duke Ernst II.

Database
Manuscripta Mediaevalia
Manuscript census

Catalogues
- Cross catalogue (card catalogue in the special reading room)
- Systematic catalogue in bound form
- Handwritten and printed catalogues for the individual groups of stocks
- Catalogues for the Bibliotheca Amploniana

Early Modern and Modern Manuscripts, Inheritance, Autographs

This stock consists of manuscripts, inheritance and autographs of the intellectual-historical principles and the formation period of the Reformation as well as its impact and reception. Besides this Reformation manuscripts that form the core stock, the collection preserves works, documents, inheritances and autographs of writers, scientists, librarians and cultural associations of the modern era.

Database
HANS database
Kalliope
RISM (Sheet music, research with the library signet D-GOL)
Repertory „Bildungsgeschichte“
Catalogues

- Cross catalogue (card catalogue in the special reading room)
- Systematic catalogue in bound form
- Letter recipients, author’s catalogue in bound and card form
- Further written and printed catalogues of individual groups of stocks
- Catalogues or finding aids of the Perthes collection

Signatures

Memb. I, Memb. II, Chart A, Chart B, Gym, SPA

Oriental Manuscripts

The Research Library Gotha accommodates the country’s third largest Oriental manuscript collection comprising 3,496 codices. It was mainly collected at the early 19th century. The collection covers a broad spectrum of Islamic erudition and topics such as theology, jurisprudence, medicine, grammar, lexicography and poetry.

Database

Oriental Manuscripts

Catalogues


Signatures

Ms. orient. A (arabische Handschriften)
Ms. orient. P (persische Handschriften)
Ms. orient. T (türkische Handschriften)
Ms. orient. Ag (Anhang: seltene Sprachen)

Catalogues for the Printed Collections of the Research Library Gotha

Incunabulum and Early Publications until 1517

The Research Library preserves over 1,000 incunabula from the Ducal and the Gymnasial Collection. Furthermore 31 incunabula of the former church library Pößneck including many Latin theological texts from German printing places and numerous prints from Venice and other European printing places.

Database

Online-catalogue of the library
Complete catalogue of the cradle prints
Incunabula catalogue INKA
ISTC

Catalogues

- Online-catalogue of the library
- Ehwald, Rudolf: Catalogus Incunabulorum Bibliothecae Ducalis Gothanae. Handwritten book catalogue according to printers and print location
- Monumenta typographica
- Handwritten chronological book catalogue of publications until 1517
- (both catalogues as microfiche publications at the general information and circulation desk of the FB)

Signatures

Mon. typ, Inc, Druck

Publications from the Ducal Collection

The Ducal Collection, founded by Duke Ernst I of Saxe-Gotha-Altenburg, consists of the court library and the private book collection of the dukes and duchesses. With 227,000 items, it is the largest historical collection of the research library and is regarded as complete since 1945

Database

Online-catalogue of the library, incl. VD 16, VD 17

Catalogues

- Online-catalogue of the library (most publications listed)
- Microfiche of handwritten book catalogues at the general information and circulation desk at the Gotha Research Library or the information centre of the University Library Erfurt (ground floor)
Alphabetical catalogue
Systematic catalogue with 25 specialized groups
Further handwritten or printed catalogues, special catalogues (e.g. book catalogues under the subject group Poetry)

Signatures
see main groups of the Ducal Collection p. 4

Prints from the Gymnasial Collection
The gymnasial collection goes back to the 1596 donated book collection of the Gotha Gymnasium Illustre (since 1859 Gymnasium Ernestinum) that was donated in 1596. Under Duke Friedrich II of Saxe-Gotha-Altenburg (1693–1732) it was augmented with duplicates from the Gotha ducal library. The integrated collection from 1945 that can be found in the present Research Library Gotha contains approx. 70,000 titles.

Database
Online-catalogue of the library, incl. VD 16, VD 17

Catalogues
- Online-catalogue of the library

Signatures
see main groups of the Ducal Collection p. 4

Catalogue for the special collections of the Research Library Gotha

Collection Perthes
The Collection Perthes contains collections of the former publishing house Justus Perthes Gotha as well as the VEB Hermann Haack geographic-cartographic institution Gotha. It consist of the Map Collection, the Library of the Publishing House and the Archive of the Publishing House. Special Holdings are the Gothaischer Hofkalender (Gotha Court Calendar) and the Henze Library.

Database
Map database IKAR:
- Maps or items from the publishing production of Perthes from 1785 until 1945 including individual maps, all in monographs, atlases and journals of the publishing house’s published maps as well as copperplates from the 10th and 11th (international) edition of the “Stieler’s Handatlas” (“Stieler’s Hand-Atlas”)

Catalogues
Catalogues and finding aids of the Collection Perthes

Dissertations (Diss)
Online-catalogue of the library, incl. VD 16, VD 17

Catalogues
- Alphabetical, handwritten book catalogue
- Until the middle of the 18th century, ordered according to the name of the praesides and subsequently under the name of the respondents
- Online-catalogue of the library

Hymnal Book Collection (Cant. spir)
Database
- Completely listed in the online-catalogue of the library

Funeral Sermons (LP)
Database
Online-catalogue of the library, incl. VD 16, VD 17

Catalogues
- Online-catalogue of the library
- Alphabetical book catalogue

Sheet Music (Mus, M)
Database
- Sheet music database (For access: please contact the library staff)
- The gymnasial sheet music collection is currently being listed in the online-catalogue.
- Handwritten sheet music: RISM, library signet D-GOL

School Documents (S)
Database
- Online database, according to <Place> <School> <Year>
II. Research guide for the historical stocks

The research guide shows you the possible research steps you can take with your search for literature according to contents and alphabetically - both online as well as using the handwritten book catalogue of the Ducal Collection (microfiche at the general information and circulation desk).

The alphabetical book catalogue of the Ducal catalogue only serves as a registering function to the systematic catalogue. This indicates a page signature under which, in the systematic catalogue, the complete signature (individual signature) must be used.

In the special catalogues available in microfiche, please research additionally, as these are not integrated into the alphabetical and systematic book catalogue. You will receive the handwritten special catalogue Dissertations upon request from the staff of the special reading room. They will be happy to help you with any questions or advice regarding the stocks and their research tools. If you would like to use stocks from the Perthes collection, please go to the Homepage, in particular to the page Accessing the holdings.

Main Groups of the Ducal Collection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main Groups of the Ducal Collection*</th>
<th>Main Groups Gymnasial Collection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy</td>
<td>Prints from the 16th century</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>Druck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theology</td>
<td>Historiography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>Prints from the 15. century</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cities</td>
<td>Jurisprudence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biography</td>
<td>Art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genealogy and Heraldry</td>
<td>Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antiquitates</td>
<td>Mathematics, Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journals</td>
<td>Philosophy, Philology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jurisprudence</td>
<td>Theology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathesis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numismatic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poesis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheet Music</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gothana</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pedagogic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book and Writings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spiritual Songs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funeral Sermons</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incurabula and early prints until 1517</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* The order on the list is related to the Ducal classification system in the online catalogue</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Further Groups

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Further Groups</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monastery School Ilfeld Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Prussian Collection Horn OSH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reyher Publishing House R</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Revision markers in the book catalogue of the Ducal Collection

The stocks have been revised. The following revision marks can be found in the catalogue volumes:

- at location
- missing
- referral, cf.
Content research

1. Version: Search in the classification system of the Ducal collection (Online, microfiche)

Example: Searching on titles about Spiritual Teaching

- Find an overview of the individual signature groups under „Classification system of the Ducal collection“
- Identify the page signature (indicates the pages in the systematic catalogue, on which the title of the searched subject are listed on)

Page signature ↓
01.12 Spiritual Teaching Phil 2° 00043

Search with the signature in the online-catalogue:
- Search for Phil 2° 00043
- Search key “Signature [SGN]”
- Entry with truncation: Phil 2° 0004?
- Found are titles from pages 40 to 49 of the catalogue

or

- Search by signature Phil 2° 00043 in the systematic catalogue of the microfiche edition

2. Version: Search with notations in the complete inventory

Using notation, you can search for previously online documented literature under the category „Classification [RVK]“ in the online-catalogue. Please note, that thereby, also stocks from the special collection of the University Library Erfurt will be shown that also use this notation.

Example: Search for the titles about Canon Law Classification mark in the „Classification system of the Ducal collection“ search, copy

Notation/Classification mark ↓
10.05 Canon Law (Ius Canonicum)

Search by notation:
- Entry in the search field in the online-catalogue: 10.05
- Search key: „Classification [RVK]“
- Show all of the accessible titles with this notation in the online-catalogue

The allocation of notation is being continuously upgraded for the complete old stocks. As long as all the stocks do not have this notation yet, the first version offered will bring more comprehensive research results and is, therefore, the central starting point for your complete research.
Alphabetical Research in handwritten catalogues

1. Step:
Search in the alphabetical catalogue to determine the base signature and the page number in the systematic catalogue (microfiche)

- in this catalogue you find information like author and title as well as subject group, format and (page) numbering that form the base signature
- base signature located under the title
- get information where to find title in the appropriate volume of the systematic catalogue
- alphabetical catalogue has only register function: Subnumber not specified
- **Tip:** Ordered according to „Prussian Instructions“, search for: Substantivum regens (first the independent noun)
- No entries under corporations

2. Step:
Search in the systematic catalogue with the base signature to complete the Individual signature (microfiche)

- Select the subject group
- Search for the given page in the alphabetical catalogue and your title
- find the subnumber written in front of the author names
- complete the individual signature with subnumber and if necessary with volume/issue
- Signature is complete

**Example:** Search for Francisco Suárez, Metaphysicarvm Disputationvm, Venice 1605

1. Search in the alphabetical catalogue
- Search for Suárez:
- base signature: Phil. Fol., p. 43
- standardized form: Phil 2° 43

2. Search in the systematic catalogue
- Select subject group Phil., format Fol. (2°)
- Search on page 43 for Suarez
- Complete the individual signature with subnumber and volume
- Complete Signature: Phil 2° 43/1 (2)

Search in online-catalogue
- Search with standardized signature: Phil 2 00043 01 02
- Search key: „Signature [SGN]“
Research tips

Standardize signature when using the online-catalogue.

Signature Phil 8° 120 /3 (1)
Standardized signature: Phil 8 00120 03 01
Search key: „Signature [SGN]”

Finding secondary literature from their sources

Based on the signature of manuscripts or old prints, you will find appropriate secondary literature in the online-catalogue (research documentation). Here, the manuscript signature will be used as the keyword.

Signature Chart A 102
Standardized signature
Entry with truncation: Chart A00102?
Search key: „Keyword [SLW]”

At the moment available in the research documentation is, in particular, research literature about Bibliotheca Amploniana and of the Research Library Gotha which is being continuously expanded.