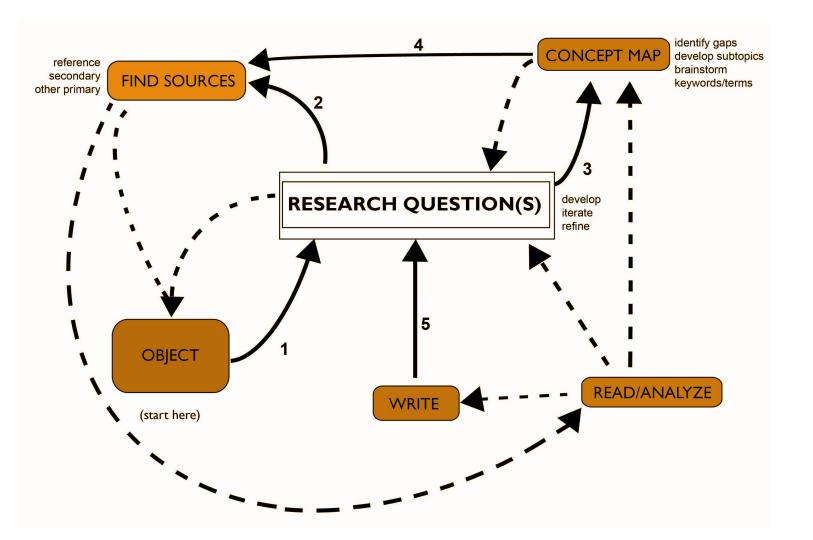
# Survey of African Art

SARA SMITH
Arts & Humanities Librarian
ssmith@amherst.edu



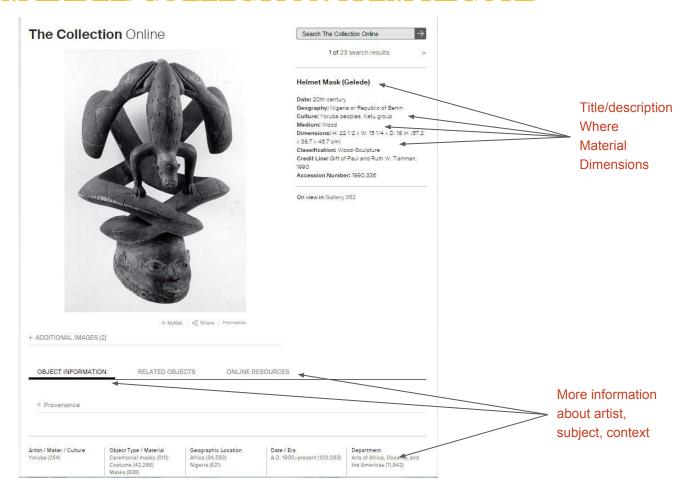


# **IMAGE SEARCH**

http://www.artstor.org.ezproxy.amherst.edu/index.shtml

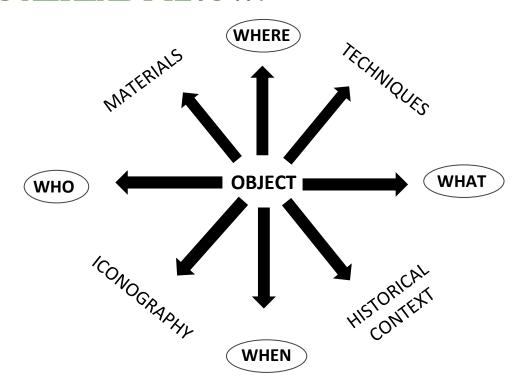


### THE MUSEUM LABEL/COLLECTION ITEM RECORD



http://tinyurl.com/jk2dgey

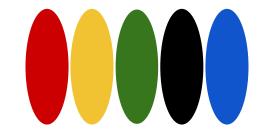
### WHAT DO YOU ALREADY KNOW?



WHO is/was involved? Individuals, organizations, categories of stakeholders, etc.
WHAT is/was of interest? concepts, genres, places, activities, events, etc.
WHERE do/did these things happen? Geographic places, specific environments, etc.
WHEN were the objects/spaces you're focusing on in use? Specific years, larger eras, etc.

# **IDENTIFY RELATED QUESTIONS**

What do you need to know?
What are you interested in learning more about?
How and why do these words and ideas relate?



# P.I.P. PUT IT IN PERSPECTIVE



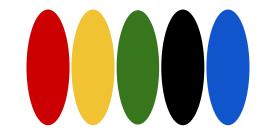
general reference source, like <a href="http://www.oxfordartonline.com">http://www.oxfordartonline.com</a>

# **SEARCHING THE LIBRARY CATALOG**

https://www.amherst.edu/library/



# Search the catalog Browse the stacks



- 1) Find a book in the catalog related to your image in some way
- 2) Go locate it in the stacks and bring it back; bring back a second book nearby that looks relevant

## OBJECT/IMAGE-CENTERED RESEARCH

- find out as much as possible about your object [START WITH OBSERVATION/IMAGE RECORD museum label or collection databases THEN monographs, exhibition catalogs]
- use SECONDARY SOURCES to explore historical background and cultural context [SEARCH CATALOG for books, DATABASES for journal articles, REFERENCE WORKS for overview]
- **find RELATED and SIMILAR** objects that can help shed light on your object [READ REFERENCE WORKS, EXHIBITION CATALOGS, MONOGRAPHS, JOURNAL ARTICLES]
- **develop** your thoughts/assertions [COMBINE your own thinking with what you've learned from sources]
- test your conclusions against OTHERS' RESEARCH [READ JOURNAL ARTICLES, MONOGRAPHS]

### **NEXT STEPS**

#### **MORE RESEARCH HELP:**

MAKE AN APPOINTMENT! ssmith@amherst.edu

#### **USE THE RESEARCH GUIDES:**

COURSE GUIDE: www.amherst.edu/library/find/courseguides/1516S/ARHA-353

ARHA GUIDE: www.amherst.edu/library/find/researchguides/ARHA

**IMAGE GUIDE:** <u>www.amherst.edu/library/find/researchguides/images</u>

### **WORLDCAT/INTER-LIBRARY LOAN:**

www.amherst.edu/library/find/alphalist#W www.amherst.edu/library/services/request

#### THE WRITING CENTER:

www.amherst.edu/~writing/



be not afraid of the librarians