



ADVISOR REVIEWS—STANDARD REVIEW

Sex & Sexuality Module I: Research Collections from the Kinsey Institute Library & Special Collections

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Composite Score: ★★★ 1/2

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Abstract

Sex & Sexuality, Module I: Research Collections from the Kinsey Institute Library & Special Collections published by Adam Matthew Digital is a collection of digitized primary sources obtained exclusively from the Kinsey Institute Library & Special Collections dedicated to the study of human sexuality throughout the twentieth century. The collection makes use of the artificial intelligence capabilities of Handwritten Text Recognition (HTR) to enable keyword searching of handwritten documents. The documents and images in the collection have been meticulously digitized by Adam Matthew Digital making them discoverable, visually appealing, and adjustable. The proprietary interface is intuitive to navigate with the product being compatible with a range of browsers and electronic devices. Contract provisions are standard to the product and permit for use across locations and interlibrary loan sharing. As pricing is primarily determined by size and enrollment, the collection may be affordable for libraries of varying sizes. Users seeking more current research on gender and women's studies may find ProQuest's GenderWatch a more suitable choice, while those seeking information on sexuality from the sixteenth to mid-twentieth centuries may prefer Part III of Gale's Archives of Sexuality & Gender with both resources providing access to a range of sources beyond that of the Kinsey Institute.

Pricing Options

Sex & Sexuality is a subscription based two module resource with Module I and Module II being individual subscriptions. A representative of Adam Matthew Digital stated pricing "is determined by a range of factors that influence the size of potential user group, including but not limited to Carnegie Classification and full-time enrollment." Institutions are encouraged to contact Adam Matthew Digital directly for a quote.¹

Product Overview/Description

Sex & Sexuality is a digitized primary source collection devoted to the subject of human sexuality which is cross-searchable with other Adam Matthew Digital products. Those studying the topic of human sexuality in the twentieth century at the undergraduate or graduate level will find this collection to be of use. Module I: Research Collections from the Kinsey Institute Library & Special Collections "explores changing attitudes towards human sexuality, gender identities and sexual behaviors throughout the twentieth century." Module I was published in January 2020 by Adam Matthew Digital, a subsidiary of SAGE Group, in collaboration with the Kinsey Institute for

Research in Sex, Gender, and Reproduction (hereafter referred to as The Kinsey Institute). The Kinsey Institute was founded in 1947 and merged with Indiana University in 2016, remaining the recognized authority in human sexuality. Module II: Self-Expression, Community, and Identity, scheduled for release in November 2020, will center upon the LGBTQI+ experience. The focus of this review will be on Module I.

All content is from the Kinsey Institute Library & Special Collections with a focus on sexology and sex research in "America and beyond" during the twentieth century. The contents of Module I can be downloaded as an XLS from the product homepage with 11,743 unique items currently in the collection. The collection has "material of a sexually explicit nature" and contains a disclaimer to this effect which users must acknowledge before accessing the site. A wide range of topics within the field of sexology is covered such as gender identity, sexual behavior, sexual health, sexual preference, sex education, global and regional perspectives on sex, reproduction, and relationships in general. The collection spans the leadership of the Kinsey Institute's first three directors encompassing correspondence from the era of the first two directors, Dr. Alfred C. Kinsey and Dr. Paul H. Gebhard, and the syndicated advice column and annual publication of The Kinsey Report from the third director, Dr. June Reinisch. Module I provides access to the complete collection of sex researchers Alice Field, Harry Benjamin, and James W. Edwards. Also part of the holdings are correspondence and conference proceedings from the Society for the Scientific Study of Sex and the Kinsey Institute Annual Reports.

Materials are comprised of correspondence, programs, pamphlets, newsletters, ephemera, newspapers, and research briefs, amongst other related content. In order to protect individual's confidentiality and privacy, the Sex & Sexuality redaction policy requires that any "sensitive or personally identifying information" be redacted. Handwritten Text Recognition (HTR), a form of artificial intelligence, enables full-text searching of handwritten manuscripts. HTR documents do not provide transcripts. The Adam Matthew Digital website notes that they are the first publisher to use artificial intelligence for reading handwritten manuscripts.² Additional features of Sex & Sexuality are a directory of prominent individuals referenced in the collection, an interactive timeline of key research and events related to the field of human sexuality in the twentieth century, and a small offering of essays and one video lecture.

Administrators can track usage statistics via COUNTER Release 4 and SUSHI. Utilizing COUNTER, administrators can generate DB1, MR1, MR2, and CR2 reports which can be exported via XML or

FIGURE 1 Sex & Sexuality Advanced Search Screen

TSV format. MARC records are provided for integration into OPAC systems and are available for download from the product homepage. Adam Matthew Digital offers training via customized webinars and general PDF collection guides. There are also brief video tutorials providing instructions on navigating the site and making use of various features. Onsite visits for training are available upon request. Technical support is accessible via email. The My Archive feature permits users to create an account to save and organize results. Documents can be saved to My Bookshelf and images to My Lightbox. Adam Matthew Digital provides a Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) to demonstrate compliance with Section 508 guidelines with the majority of criteria being supported and a few areas being partially supported. The VPAT indicates that videos include text transcriptions, and image slideshows have text titles and can be navigated via keyboard controls. The site does not depend upon color for users to understand content. Content is accessible with assistive technology.³

User Interface/Navigation/Searching

Sex & Sexuality is accessible online and is optimized for the following browsers: Microsoft Edge; Internet Explorer 10 and 11; and the most current versions of Firefox, Safari, and Google Chrome. As a URL based product, it is accessible from any electronic device with an internet connection that is authenticated.

Users can begin by typing a keyword search in the search box on the home page or on the advanced search screen. Users may select Ad-

vanced Search at the top of the home page to search by key words, title, people, or places with the use of Boolean terms, word stemming, or proximity (see Figure 1). Additionally, phrase searching and wildcards are supported search methods. It should be noted that while HTR documents can be searched using phrase searching, Boolean operators are not supported. Results can be further filtered by date, collection, topic, document type, or limiting to secondary resources. The right side panel displays previous searches and a link for users to search the people directory which is organized in alphabetical order by last name with the capability of searching multiple individuals at a time. There is also a link at the top of the page to Search Directories.

Across the top of the page users can select Introduction, Documents, Collection Guides, Explore, or Help (see Figure 2). There is a "hamburger button" beside these tabs which provides an expanded menu of options to select under each heading. The Introduction section provides more information about the collection such as selection criteria, copyright information, and nature and scope. Documents provides options to view all documents or to perform an advanced search. Collection Guides shares information about each individual collection's focus, content, and places the material in context. Under the Explore tab at the time of this review's publication are three essays and one video lecture related to the collection's content, an "Introduction to the Kinsey Institute" written by the current director, and an interactive chronology of sexology. The Help tab contains a page by page guide to the collection, frequently asked questions, tips for using the collection in teaching, terms of use, privacy policy, and contact information.

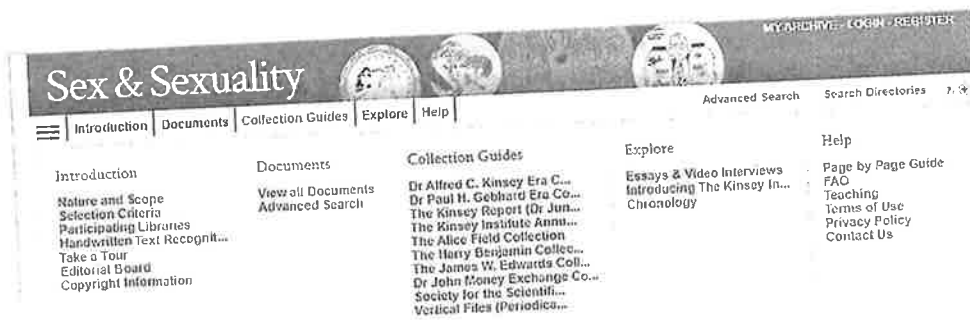


FIGURE 2 Sex & Sexuality Home Page Navigation Options

FIGURE 3 Sex & Sexuality Browsing Options



FIGURE 4 Sex & Sexuality Search Results Thumbnail Images

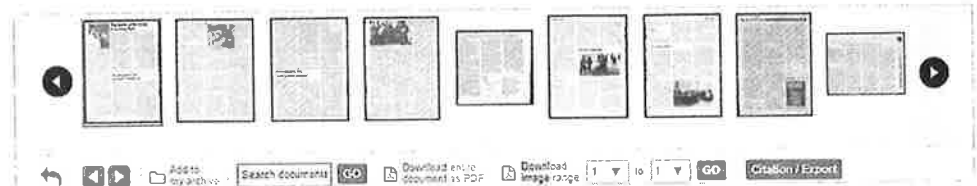
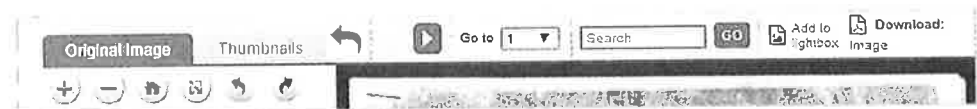


FIGURE 5 Sex & Sexuality Image Viewing Options



To search documents, users can choose to View All Documents (or select List View) or perform an advanced search as was described previously (see Figure 3). When selecting View All Documents users then have the option to browse by collection or topic, or to view items in a list by selecting List View with the capability to further refine results by document type. Once a collection or topic is specified, users can then refine results by limiting collection results to a particular topic or topic results to a particular collection and/or document type. Results can be limited to HTR documents only. Upon selecting a collection or topic, results can also be filtered by date. Results can be sorted by title, date, or by collection, topic, or document type.

Results that are full-text searchable documents are denoted by a page icon with HTR searchable documents denoted by a pencil icon. After selecting a document to view, thumbnail images from the document can be scrolled through using the next or previous buttons (see Figure 4). The entire document or a selected range of pages or images can be downloaded with Adobe Reader, a free application, being required to do so. A search box is available to search document content. The Citation/Export option generates the information necessary to create a citation for an online source but does not conform to a particular citation style. Results can be exported to RefWorks, EndNote, or Zotero. Users can select Add To My Archive to save a document. Results can be shared to Facebook, Twitter, or via e-mail.

Images can be increased or decreased in magnification, moved, or rotated. Images can be viewed by Original Image to access one image at

time or by Thumbnails to display all thumbnails available for a document. To save images, users select Add To Lightbox (see Figure 5).

Critical Evaluation

Sex & Sexuality, Module I: Research Collections from the Kinsey Institute Library & Special Collections is a collection of digitized primary sources which focuses on the range of human sexuality throughout the twentieth century with content exclusively culled from the Kinsey Institute Library & Special Collections. The Kinsey Institute is a noted expert in the field of human sex research, with this collection highlighting evolving perspectives on the topic over the last century. Sex & Sexuality is unique in its focus on the breadth of the field of sexology, access to primary sources from the Kinsey Institute, use of HTR for searching handwritten manuscripts, and coverage throughout the twentieth century. Adam Matthew has done a laudable job at digitizing the archival materials with the images being quick to load, clear, and easily adjustable by the user for magnification and maneuverability. Sex & Sexuality is accessible from a variety of browsers. Contract provisions are standard to the product and allow for secure authentication permitting remote use across an organization's locations and interlibrary loan. With pricing primarily determined by institution size and full-time enrollment, it may be within the budget of libraries of various sizes.

While Sex & Sexuality certainly fills a gap in the availability of electronic resources focusing on sexology, there are a few points which

may limit its applicability for some libraries. The limitation to resources contained with the Kinsey Institute Library & Special Collections may be constraining for users who wish to have access to range of publications on the topic and/or beyond the perspective of the United States which the majority of the collection explores. As the collection is archival in nature, it does not provide information on current sex research. Customer service options are limited to email support which may be problematic for those preferring dedicated 24/7 customer support. Although the value-added feature of the availability of essays and video interviews are touted, these are extremely limited at three essays and one video lecture.

Regarding HTR, in testing this feature I was impressed by its capability to locate my selected term within a handwritten document with the results being clearly highlighted. However, there were also a number of false returns suggesting this technology is not without its imperfections. Furthermore, the inability to utilize a Boolean search for HTR documents may impede discoverability for those seeking more results on specialized topics. Users who seek a wider range of sources on sexuality as well as sources pre-dating the twentieth century may find greater use from Gale's Archives of Sexuality & Gender, Part III: Sex and Sexuality, Sixteenth to Twentieth Centuries, whereas those seeking a more current perspective specific to gender and women's studies may prefer ProQuest's GenderWatch.

Competitive Products

There are few direct competitors providing a dedicated collection of electronic resources devoted to sexology. The most direct competitor is the Archives of Sexuality and Gender by Gale. There are a number of databases that focus on women's issues, gender studies, and LGBTQ issues. Of these products, GenderWatch by ProQuest is most comparable to Sex & Sexuality.

Archives of Sexuality and Gender is a three part collection. The first two parts, Archives of Sexuality & Gender: LGBTQ History and Culture Since 1940 Parts I and II offer searchable primary sources covering LGBTQ+ issues such as history, activism, psychology, health, and gender studies. The third addition to the collection, Archives of Sexuality & Gender: Sex and Sexuality in the 16th Through 20th Centuries takes a broader focus on sexuality in general, beyond LGBTQ+ topics from 1600 to 1940 by examining "patterns of fertility and sexual practice, prostitution, religion and sexuality, the medical and legal construction of sexualities, the rise of sexology, and more."⁴ At holdings of approximately one million pages of previously inaccessible primary materials, the collection is robust. Sources included in this third installment include the British Library's Private Case Collection, a collection of publications on sexuality from 1700 to 1894 held in the Alfred C. Kinsey Institute for Sex Research and utilized by Dr. Kinsey in his work. Gale offers users downloadable Optimized Character Recognition (OCR) software to search monographs and other materials by keyword. Users can cross-search other Gale databases to which they have access.

GenderWatch is a database of primary and secondary sources devoted to gender and women's studies which "enhances gender and women's studies, and gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (GLBT) research by providing authoritative perspectives from 1970 to present."⁵ Holdings are relatively modest at approximately 300 titles with over 250 of

these being full-text. The coverage is broad and addresses such topics as sexuality, eating disorders, feminism, and religion. ProQuest states the collection contains "archival materials" dating back to the 1970s and notes the perspective to be global with over 30% of the titles originating from outside the United States. Cross-searching is enabled for users with other ProQuest database subscriptions.

Purchase & Contract Provisions

Purchase and contract provisions are outlined in the Adam Matthew Digital Standard License Agreement. Authorized users are identified as "Persons Affiliated with the Licensee" including students (including distance education), employees, and walk-ins. Remote access is to be provided through secured authentication by those affiliated with the licensee. There are no restrictions against use of the product across a university system. The terms of use stipulate that the licensee may download, digitally copy, or print "a reasonable portion of the Licensed Materials." The terms of use permit for the creation of course packs and electronic reserves. Interlibrary loan or scholarly sharing is allowed but must include no more than 5% of the collection. The full terms of use may be viewed at <<http://www.sexandsexuality.amdigital.co.uk/Help/TermsOfUse>>.

Authentication

Authentication is available via API key and IP address.

Author's Notes

1. Mary Kay Jezzini (U.S. Publicity Consultant, Adam Matthew Digital), e-mail message to author, December 2019.
2. Adam Matthew Digital, "Handwritten Text Recognition," Accessed January 30, 2020. <<https://www.amdigital.co.uk/products/handwritten-text-recognition>>
3. Adam Matthew Digital, "VPAT Section 508 Report," Accessed February 7, 2020. <<http://www.sexandsexuality.amdigital.co.uk/Help/Section508>>

Free Text Keywords: Adam Matthew Digital | sex | sexuality | sex research | sexology | LGTBQ+ | gender studies | women's studies | Kinsey Institute for Research in Sex, Gender, and Reproduction | Gale | ProQuest | GenderWatch | Archives of Sexuality & Gender | handwritten text recognition

Primary Category: Sociology, Education, Anthropology, Psychology

Secondary Categories: Ethnic, Gender, and LGBTQ Studies; History & Area Studies; Multidisciplinary (or interdisciplinary)

Type of product being reviewed: Primary source digital content

Target Audience: Undergraduate (including community colleges); Graduate/Faculty/Researcher

Access: Subscription



Sex & Sexuality Module I

Review Scores Composite: ★★ ★ 1/2

The maximum number of stars in each category is 5.

Content: ★★ ★ 1/2

A large collection of expertly digitized primary sources previously not accessible from the Kinsey Institute covering the entire twentieth century. "Essays & Video Interviews" are extremely limited and add little substantial additional value. While a niche product, it may benefit from the inclusion of additional sources on sexuality outside of the Kinsey Institute to increase diversity of views and global perspective.

User Interface/Searchability: ★★ ★

The interface is intuitive to navigate. Content is cross-searchable with other Adam Matthew Digital products. The product complies well with accessibility guidelines. The use of HTR improves the discoverability of handwritten manuscripts, however the technology is marred by false returns and inability to utilize Boolean search terms.

Pricing: N/A

As a direct quote was not provided by Adam Matthew Digital, it is difficult to assess this area. However, the product does offer a substantial title list of primary sources with pricing adjusted to FTE and institutional size.

Purchase/Contract Options: ★★ ★ ★

Contract provisions are standard for the product. Terms do limit the amount of a work that can be printed, e-mailed, or shared via Interlibrary Loan.

4. Gale, "Archives of Sexuality & Gender, Part III: Sex and Sexuality, Sixteenth to Twentieth Centuries," Accessed February 9, 2020. <https://www.gale.com/binaries/content/assets/gale-us-en/primary-sources/archives-of-sexuality-and-gender/gct19880848-archives-of-sexuality--gender-part-iii-one-sheet_new.pdf>
5. ProQuest, "GenderWatch," Accessed February 9, 2020. <<https://www.proquest.com/products-services/genderwatch.html#resources>>

About the Author

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private practice and is a second career librarian where she serves as Lenoir-Rhyne University library's liaison to the departments of business and economics, mathematics, computer science, psychology, and counseling. ■