The IOC Olympic Studies Centre is part of the Olympic Foundation for Culture and Heritage.
The IOC Olympic Studies Centre (OSC) is the result of a long journey that started with Pierre de Coubertin. The founder of the IOC and the modern Olympic Games said shortly before his death: “I have not been able to carry out to the end what I wanted to perfect. I think that a centre of Olympic Studies would aid the preservation and progress of my work more than anything else”. After early initiatives, including the creation of an International Olympic Institute in Berlin in 1938 and the International Olympic Academy in 1961, the IOC Olympic Studies Centre was created under the Samaranch presidency in 1982.

OUR MISSION: CURATE AND SHARE KNOWLEDGE

Today, the OSC is a recognised source of reference for Olympic knowledge for both the Olympic Movement and the academic community.

As part of the IOC, we collect and share the most up-to-date, accurate and relevant information and knowledge about the Olympic Games, the Olympic Movement and their place in society.

Our mission is to share this knowledge through providing information, giving access to our unique collections, enabling research and stimulating the intellectual exchange related to Olympism.

ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT OLYMPIC STUDIES

By collaborating with an international network of academics and university-based Olympic studies centres, our objective is to promote the field of Olympic studies, grow the pool of Olympic knowledge and encourage the permanent dialogue between the IOC and scholars.

Every year we fund Olympic-related research with a humanities or social science perspective via two grant programmes: the PhD Students and Early Career Academics Research Grant Programme and the Advanced Olympic Research Grant Programme for established researchers.

Contact us to find out more about the programmes and how to apply.

SHARING HISTORY, ENRICHING THE FUTURE

> OLYMPIC STUDIES
HERE TO HELP
Whatever your interest in the Olympic Movement – academic or professional – we will help you find the information you need, quickly and easily.

We are here to:

- Answer your questions: share factual and historical information, results and statistics
- Provide personalised guidance: help you find what you need in our library and archives
- Give access to our library collection and electronic documents via the Olympic World Library
- Award research grants
- Connect you to our academic network

Please email at studies.centre@olympic.org

EXPLORE OUR COLLECTIONS
Via the OSC you can access:

- All official IOC publications and IOC historical archives since 1894 (see archive access rules online)
- Official publications and reports from Organising Committees for the Olympic Games
- Candidature files from bid cities
- Games-time publications from International Sports Federations and National Olympic Committees
- Academic publications
- Reference documents and fact sheets
- Olympic Games results and participation data

Visit the Olympic World Library to access our entire digital and printed collection with over 35,000 titles, of which 9,000 are in digital format.

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Shortly before his death, Pierre de Coubertin said: “Je n’ai pas terminé ce que je devais accomplir. (...) Je pense qu’un centre d’études olympiques contribuerait, plus que toute autre chose, à préserver et à faire avancer mon travail. » (”I have not been able to carry out to the end what I wanted to perfect. (...) I think that a centre of Olympic studies would aid the preservation and progress of my work more than anything else.”)
The Olympic Studies Centre team is here to help you with your research needs.
VISIT US
You will find us next door to The Olympic Museum, in Lausanne, Switzerland.

We are open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm, except on public holidays.

You don’t need an appointment to use the library and the study rooms. If you would like to consult the historical archives or need personal guidance to find your way around our collections, please fill out our visitor request form on our website.

CAN’T COME TO LAUSANNE?
No problem. You can:

– Explore our publications and documents on the Olympic World Library: www.olympic.org/library
– Borrow publications using our inter-library loan service

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