

FILM STUDIES: A GUIDE TO FINDING MATERIALS IN THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY SYSTEM

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1. Research guides, dictionaries, encyclopedias and survey sources

The following **research guide** provides an overview of the many reference sources published over the years that are of potential use to those doing research in film and television:

Emmons, Mark. *Film and Television: A Guide to the Reference Literature*.
Westport, CT: Libraries Unlimited, 2006. (REF Z5784 M9 E47 2006)

To obtain a listing of **dictionaries and encyclopedias on film** in the library's reference collection, consult PittCat by entering the following Library of Congress subject heading:

MOTION PICTURES DICTIONARIES

The following representative **reference books** (some of which may be kept behind the reference desk) provide definitions of critical film terms and/or entries of varying lengths on particular films, filmmakers, actors, writers, producers, cinematographers, national cinemas, film genres, film techniques, and film theory. Entries are often followed by useful filmographies and selective bibliographies for further reading.

Beaver, Frank. *Dictionary of Film Terms: The Aesthetic Companion to Film Art*.
New York: Peter Lang, 2006 (REF PN1993.45 B33 2006)

Konigsberg, Ira. *The Complete Film Dictionary*. 2nd ed. New York: Penguin
Reference, 1997 (REF PN1993.45 K66 1997)

Hayward, Susan. *Cinema Studies: The Key Concepts*. 3rd ed. New York: Routledge, 2006 (REF PN1993.45 H36 2006; note that the 2nd ed. (2000) is available online via ebrary)

Blandford, Steve, et al. *The Film Studies Dictionary*. London: Arnold, 2001. (REF PN1993.45 B53 2001)

Pearson, Roberta E., and Philip Simpson, eds. *Critical Dictionary of Film and Television Theory*. New York: Routledge, 2001. (REF PN1993.45 C75 2001)

Clark, Vivienne, et al. *Complete A-Z Media & Film Studies Handbook*. London: Hodder Arnold, 2007 (REF PN1993.45 C53 2007)

Katz, Ephraim. *The Film Encyclopedia*. 5th ed. New York: Collins, 2005 (REF PN1993.45 K34 2005)

Bawden, Liz-Anne, ed. *The Oxford Companion to Film*. New York: Oxford UP, 1976. (REF PN1993.45 O9)

Halliwel, Leslie. *Halliwel's Film Guide*. . 21st ed. New York: HarperResource, 2003- (REF PN1998 H433; kept at reference desk)

Cassell Companion to Cinema. Rev. and updated ed. London: Cassell, 1997 (REF PN1993.45 B74 1997)

Tibbetts, John C., and James M. Walsh, eds. *The Encyclopedia of Filmmakers*. 2 vols. New York: Facts on File, 2002. (REF PN1998.2 T53 2002)

Grant, Berry Keith. *Schirmer Encyclopedia of Film*. 4 vols. Detroit: Schirmer Reference, 2007 (REF PN1993.45 G65 2007)

International Dictionary of Films and Filmmakers. 4 vols. 3rd ed. Detroit: St. James Press, 1997. (Reference desk; REF PN1997.8 I58 1997; **note that the 4th ed. (2000) is available online**)

Vol 1--Films; Vol. 2--Directors; Vol. 3--Actors and Actresses; Vol. 4--Writers and Production Artists.

Thomson, David. *The New Biographical Dictionary of Film*. 4th ed. New York: Knopf, 2002. (PN1998.2 T49 2002; **note that 2004 ed. is available online**)

Nowell-Smith, Geoffrey, ed. *The Oxford History of World Cinema*. New York: Oxford UP, 1996. (REF PN1993.5 A1096 1996)

Manvell, Roger, ed. *The International Encyclopedia of Film*. New York: Crown, 1972. (REF q PN1993.45 I5 1972)

Aitken, Ian, ed. *Encyclopedia of the Documentary Film*. 3 vols. New York: Routledge, 2006 (REF PN1995.9 D6 E53 2006)

Magill's Survey of Cinema series (critical articles on individual films)

English Language Films, First Series. 4 vols.
Englewood Cliffs: Salem Press, 1980.
(Reference desk; REF PN1993.45 M3)

English Language Films, Second Series. 6 vols.
Englewood Cliffs: Salem Press, 1981.
(Reference desk; REF PN1993.45 M3 2d ser.)

Foreign Language Films. 8 vols.
Englewood Cliffs: Salem Press, 1985
(REF PN1993.45 M34 1985)

Silent Films. 3 vols.
Englewood Cliffs: Salem Press, 1982.
(Reference desk; REF PN1993.45 M32)

Magill's Cinema Annual. Englewood Cliffs:
Salem Press, 1982 to date.
(REF PN1995 M25; latest vol. at reference desk)

Note that there is a *Title Index* (REF PN1993.45 M35 1987) for the entire series, including the early annuals.

2. Film catalogs

To find records of the library's holdings of **general catalogs** providing entries with basic information about individual films, consult PittCat by entering the following Library of Congress subject heading:

MOTION PICTURES CATALOGS

To locate any **catalogs listing the films of a particular nation or genre** in the library, enter more specific subject headings:

Examples: MOTION PICTURES GREAT BRITAIN CATALOGS
HORROR FILMS CATALOGS
SCIENCE FICTION FILMS CATALOGS
WESTERN FILMS CATALOGS

The following **film catalogs** can be found in the library's reference collection:

The American Film Institute Catalog of Motion Pictures Produced in the United States. New York: Bowker, 1971 to date. (REF PN1998 A57)
(Now **also available online**; see Section 7, below.)

Gifford, Denis. *The British Film Catalogue*. 3rd ed. 2 vols. Chicago: Fitzroy Dearborn, 2001 (REF PN1993.5 G7 B75 2001)

Nash, Jay Robert, and Stanley Ralph Ross. *The Motion Picture Guide*. 12 vols. Chicago: Cinebooks, 1985.
(REF q PN1995 N346 1985)

Supplemented by individual annual volumes, 1986 to 1993 (REF PN1995 N3462)

Dimmitt, Richard Bertrand. *A Title Guide to the Talkies: A Comprehensive Listing of 16,000 Feature-length Films from October, 1927, Until December, 1963*. 2 vols. New York: Scarecrow, 1965 (REF PN1998 D582)

Supplemented by Andrew A. Aros's *A Title Guide to the Talkies: 1964 Through 1974* (PN1998 A6695 1977) and *1975 Through 1984*, 1986 (REF PN1998 A6695 1986)

3. Circulating books in the University Library System

To locate **general books on the history of film**, consult PittCat using the following Library of Congress subject heading:

MOTION PICTURES HISTORY

To identify books on **the film history of a specific nation**, enter more specific subject headings:

Examples: MOTION PICTURES JAPAN HISTORY
MOTION PICTURES GERMANY HISTORY

To find books on **specific topics in film** or on **specific film genres**, look under their Library of Congress subject headings:

Examples: CINEMATOGRAPHY
CINEMATOGRAPHY SPECIAL EFFECTS
ANIMATION CINEMATOGRAPHY
ANIMATED FILMS
FILM NOIR
MELODRAMA IN MOTION PICTURES
HORROR FILMS
SCIENCE FICTION FILMS
AFRICAN AMERICANS IN MOTION PICTURES
WOMEN IN MOTION PICTURES

Some films and film series have become so popular or so significant that they have become the subjects of both popular and scholarly books. To locate any of these in the library's collection, consult PittCat by **entering the film titles as subject headings**:

Examples: GONE WITH THE WIND (MOTION PICTURE)
CITIZEN KANE (MOTION PICTURE)
CASABLANCA (MOTION PICTURE)
TITANIC (MOTION PICTURE:1997)
MATRIX (MOTION PICTURE)
LORD OF THE RINGS (MOTION PICTURE)

If you would like to find books **by** a particular film critic, filmmaker, producer, cinematographer, or actor, consult PittCat by **entering his or her name as an author**:

Examples: KAEL, PAULINE
KAUFFMANN, STANLEY
SAYLES, JOHN
EISENSTEIN, SERGEI
SELZNICK, DAVID
KINSKI, KLAUS

If you want to locate books **about** a particular film critic, filmmaker, producer,

cinematographer, or actor, consult PittCat by **entering his or her name as a subject heading**:

Examples: LEE, SPIKE
RIEFENSTAHL, LENI
KUROSAWA, AKIRA
ALMODÓVAR, PEDRO
OVITZ, MICHAEL
BERGMAN, INGRID

Criticism of the work of a particular individual will also be found under the subdivision CRITICISM AND INTERPRETATION following his or her name used as a subject heading:

Examples: SCORSESE, MARTIN CRITICISM AND INTERPRETATION
FASSBINDER, RAINER WERNER CRITICISM AND
INTERPRETATION
JORDAN, NEIL CRITICISM AND INTERPRETATION

4. Full text database containing film scripts

American Film Scripts Online (an Alexander Street Press database; on the library's web site at www.library.pitt.edu)

This database currently contains the full texts of 823 scripts written from 1903 to 2002 by 969 writers along with information on scenes and characters, and the actors, directors, producers and writers connected with the scripts. When completed, the database will contain over 1,000 scripts.

5. General bibliographies on film

Bibliographies can be great time-savers in providing you with a list of materials on the subject you are investigating. When using bibliographies, though, remember that **the materials cited will be only as recent as the bibliography's date of publication**. In the case of older bibliographies, you'll most likely want to supplement them by searching PittCat and the film indexes and databases for more recent material on your topic.

To locate **general bibliographies on film** in the library, consult PittCat by entering the following general subject heading:

MOTION PICTURES BIBLIOGRAPHY

For any **bibliographies on the cinema of a particular nation** in the library, scroll down

for the subdivision BIBLIOGRAPHY following a more specific subject heading:

Examples: MOTION PICTURES AUSTRALIA BIBLIOGRAPHY
MOTION PICTURES ITALY BIBLIOGRAPHY

The following **general bibliographies** list books on various aspects of film; check PittCat to determine whether the library has a copy of any book listed in these sources.

Manchel, Frank. *Film Study: An Analytical Bibliography*. 4 vols. Rutherford, NJ: Farleigh Dickinson UP, 1990 (REF Z5784 M9 M34 1990)

Rehrauer, George. *The Macmillan Film Bibliography*. 2 vols. New York: Macmillan, 1982. (REF q Z5784 M9 R423 1982)

6. Bibliographies devoted to specific filmmakers, actors, film genres, etc.

Look under specific subject headings and then scroll down to the subdivision BIBLIOGRAPHY to locate any available bibliographies on **a specific individual, film genre or topic** in the library:

Examples: TRUFFAUT, FRANÇOIS BIBLIOGRAPHY
HITCHCOCK, ALFRED BIBLIOGRAPHY
DISNEY, WALT BIBLIOGRAPHY

CHAPLIN, CHARLIE BIBLIOGRAPHY
STEWART JAMES BIBLIOGRAPHY

HORROR FILMS BIBLIOGRAPHY
WOMEN IN MOTION PICTURES BIBLIOGRAPHY

7. Selected indexes and databases of criticism and reviews

Film Literature Index, 1973 to 1975; 2002--
(Index row 12, reference area; note that 1976 to 2001 are **available online** at the library's Web site at www.library.pitt.edu)

International Index to Film Periodicals, 1972 to 2006.
(Index row 12, reference area; 1972 to date included in the *FIAF International Index to Film Periodicals Plus*, below)

These are **the two standard print indexes in Film Studies**. *Film Literature Index* consists of an author and a subject index to materials on film, television, and video published in over 300 international periodicals (fan magazines and technical journals are excluded). Note that many of these periodicals also provide reviews of particular films. The *International Index to Film Periodicals* provides subject indexing for over 80 periodicals worldwide, giving citations to articles as well as reviews, with brief descriptive annotations. The two indexes complement each other in that each indexes only periodicals not covered by the other. Citations from the *International Index to Film Periodicals* from its inception in 1972 to date are included in the online database *FIAF International Index to Film Periodicals Plus* (see description below).

FIAF International Index to Film Periodicals Plus (a ProQuest database; on the library's Web site at www.library.pitt.edu)

Generated by the International Federation of Film Archives in London, the *FIAF International Index* contains the *International Index to Film Periodicals* from 1972 to date and the *International Index to Television Periodicals* from 1979 to 2000 (television-related articles from later film journal issues continue to be indexed). The database indexes **over 330 scholarly and popular film periodicals worldwide** and permits searching by keyword, author, director, film or program title, subject, and publisher, among others. Also included are the **full texts of articles** from selected (mostly current) journals treated by the database. In addition to searching for individual articles, you can browse individual journal issues online by clicking on "Browse Full Text Journals" and then selecting the issue you want to consult.

AFI (American Film Institute) Catalog Online (on the library's Web site at www.library.pitt.edu)

Film Index International, Version 4 (1997) (CD-ROM database; reference desk)

Based on the print volumes of the *American Film Institute Catalog* in the library's reference collection, the *AFI Catalog Online* supplies lengthy entries for films produced in the U.S. from 1893 to 1972, including source information, production credits, cast, songs, music, **a detailed plot summary**, indexing (subject) terms, and source citations. The database also contains entries for over 1 million individuals (actors, directors, etc.) working in the U.S. movie industry, listing the films connected with them. The **"advanced search" feature** allow you to search the database by keyword, title, director, character, cast or crew member, release year, country, subject term, song or genre.

Produced by Chadwyck-Healey, *Film Index International* is based on the British Film Institute's *SIFT (Summary of Information on Film and Television)* database. The entries provide basic information about individual films and film personalities. By pressing <F4> when

viewing either of the two types of entries, you'll obtain a list of briefly annotated citations to reviews of, or articles about, the particular film or the personality. References appear in reverse chronological order of publication and can include **articles and reviews published as far back as the early years of this century.**

International Index to the Performing Arts (IIPA) (a ProQuest database still under production; on the library's Web site at www.library.pitt.edu)

IIPA provides citations and abstracts for the contents of more than 250 international periodicals in drama and theater (including stagecraft, mime and puppetry), comedy, film, dance, storytelling and magic. Also indexed are performing arts feature articles and reviews as well as obituaries of performing arts figures published in *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post*. Coverage extends back several decades and will increase as the database adds indexing for more periodical titles and more back issues over time. Note that links to the full texts of articles appearing in film journals in the Project Muse aggregate are provided next to their citations.

Communications & Mass Media Complete (CMMC) (an EBSCOHost database; on the library's Web site at www.library.pitt.edu)

CMMC represents the merger of two databases: *CommSearch*, formerly produced by the National Communication Association, and *Mass Media Articles Index*, formerly produced by Penn State. It indexes over 300 research journals in communications and mass media as well as the major journalism reviews, recent encyclopedias and communications studies handbooks. **The full texts of over 200 of the journals indexed are also provided in PDF format in CMMC.**

The Modern Language Association (MLA) International Bibliography (an EBSCOHost database covering 1926 to date; on the library's Web site at www.library.pitt.edu)

This is an electronic version of the standard annual international bibliography indexing books, journals and dissertations in modern languages and literatures (Index row 1). The *Bibliography* also indexes a number of film books and journals as well as books and journals on critical theory. Keyword searches using the last names of individual scholars, theorists, filmmakers, actors, producers, etc. can be particularly fruitful in finding citations to relevant books and articles. **Note that the EBSCOHost version of the Bibliography has begun to include full texts of some of the articles and reviews it cites.** As permissions are obtained, more full texts will be included in the database.

World Shakespeare Bibliography Online 1961-2008 (on the library's Web site at www.library.pitt.edu)

International in scope and based on the annual bibliography published as part of *Shakespeare Quarterly*, this cumulative database currently provides over 117,000 citations for books, articles, dissertations, play productions, **film versions of Shakespeare plays** and audio recordings, electronic media and **reviews**. The database can be searched by keyword, author, title, date, journal or publisher, type of document and language. The producers plan to extend coverage back to 1900 over time.

Humanities International Index (an EBSCOHost database; on the library's Web site at www.library.pitt.edu)

This database, which builds on Whitston's *American Humanities Index*, provides citations and brief abstracts for articles and reviews appearing in over 1,900 international scholarly journals, little magazines and reference books published from 1925 to date. Updated monthly, **the database has begun to provide the full texts of some of the articles and reviews it indexes**; as permission are obtained, more full texts will be included in the database.

Academic Onefile (a Gale Cengage database; on the library's Web site at www.library.pitt.edu)

Academic Search Premier (an EBSCOHost database; on the library's Web site at www.library.pitt.edu)

Both of these **general databases** index recent years of selected journals in the humanities and social sciences **as well as a number of popular magazines and review sources**. Of the 8,000+ periodicals indexed in *Academic Search Premier*, **full texts of articles and reviews published in over 4,700 of the periodicals are provided**. These databases are useful for **quickly locating articles on, and reviews of, recently released films as well as articles on current film celebrities (filmmakers, producers, actors, etc.)**. As with the *MLA International Bibliography*, **keyword searches** using the last names of individuals (here, filmmakers, producers, actors) can yield a number of citations to articles and reviews. For articles on , or reviews of specific films, try entering the title of the film (omitting the initial articles "a," "an," and "the") as a title in the first box; you may also need to enter the phrase "motion picture" as a subject in the second box.

Biography Reference Bank (a Wilson Web database; on the library's Web site at www.library.pitt.edu)

This new online database provides the **full texts** of essays and obituaries from the print reference series *Current Biography*, the **full texts** of articles from over 100 journals, and mostly citations to books on prominent individuals, as well as **thumbnail photographs** of them that can be enlarged. It is a rich source of information on actors, and film and show business personalities generally.

Historical Los Angeles Times (on the library's Web site at www.library.pitt.edu)

Part of the *National Newspapers (Full Text)* online database, this sub-database supplies the full text of the *Los Angeles Times* beginning with 1881, and is a particularly rich source of reporting on Hollywood and the movie industry generally down through the decades. To access the back issues, click on the *National Newspapers (Full Text)* database (on the "Databases A-Z" list), open the "Databases" drop-down menu, and select "News-The Historical Los Angeles Times." Next, set the "Date Range" specifications you want. Then enter your search term(s). A link to an "advanced search" screen appears at the top of the screen.

ARTstor (on the library's Web site at www.library.pitt.edu)

This online database contains over 500,000 images and related data from a number of sources ranging from the Carnegie Arts of the United States collection to Harvard's Schlesinger History of Women in America collection and the Huntington Archive of Asian Art, among others. The database permits **keyword searching** across the collections as well as in individual ones. In addition to images of art and architecture from around the world, the database contains **photographs of actors and other film personalities**, including formal portraits by prominent photographers of their era such as Steichen, Beaton, Avedon and Leibovitz. Also included are **stills from movies** such as Griffith's *Musketeers of Pig Alley*, Chaplin's *Modern Times*, Ford's *Stagecoach* and Welles's *Citizen Kane*. Users of ***ARTstor*** may print, export or download images for educational use by employing the database's print or export functions as described in its "Terms and Conditions" section.

8. Dissertations on topics in film studies

Digital Dissertations (a ProQuest database; on the library's Web site at www.library.pitt.edu)

If you are researching a topic in depth—in preparation for writing a dissertation

prospectus, for example, you'll want to consult the *Digital Dissertations* database, now listed among the other index databases on the library's Web site under "Indexes to Articles." It provides: (1) entries for all of the dissertations and master's theses indexed in *Dissertations Abstracts*, (2) abstracts for dissertations and theses published from 1980 to date, and (3) full texts of dissertations in digital format that were submitted to University Microfilms International, either in print or digitally, from 1997 to date.

Center for Research Libraries (CRL) online catalog (catalog.crl.edu/search/d)

Based in Chicago, CRL is a clearinghouse that acquires and lends research materials, including **a large number of foreign dissertations**, to its member research libraries. To locate any on your topic, enter a keyword in the keyword, title or subject field, using the catalog's search box. As a result, you may find other useful books and materials on your topic in CRL's collections as well. Requests for CRL materials are handled by the library's Interlibrary Loan office, and can be made using the online request form on the library's Web site (www.library.pitt.edu).

9. Microform collections

For more information on the following microform collections, which are housed in Hillman's Microforms Department (ground floor), consult the detailed version of the record for each in PittCat.

Association of Workers of Revolutionary Cinematography (1923-1932)

Cahiers du cinéma, 1951-1964; 1965-1980; 1983; 1985-1997

Cinema History Microfilm Series. Film Journals, Part 1

Cinema History Microfilm Series. Film Journals, Part 2

Communist Activity in the Entertainment Industry: FBI Surveillance Files

On Hollywood, 1942-1954

D.W Griffith Papers, 1897-1954

Early Russian Cinema, 1907-1918 (early Russian film journals)

Film Daily

Film Daily Yearbook of Motion Pictures

Leni Riefenstahl's Triumph of the Will

Little Magazine Series: Selected Complete Short-run Cinema Periodicals, 1889-1972

Merritt Crawford Papers

Moscow Lenin Order Mosfilm Studio (1938-1945)

Motion Picture Catalogs by American Producers and Distributors, 1894-1908

Motion Picture Story Magazine, 1911-1941

Nickelodeon and Motography, 1908-1918

Photoplay, 1912-1980

What Women Wrote: Scenarios, 1912-1929
Will Hays Papers

10. Web resources in Film Studies

The following Web sites provide links to scholarly and popular Web resources in Film Studies, television and video:

SCREENsite...For the Study of Film and Television (Univ. of Alabama)
www.screensite.org

Entertainment: Movies and Film (Yahoo)
dir.yahoo.com/Entertainment/movies_and_film/

The Voice of the Shuttle: Media Studies (Alan Liu, UC-Santa Barbara)
vos.ucsb.edu/

Also of interest:

The Internet Movie Database (“the *IMDb*”)
www.imdb.com/

Provides basic information about individual films and film personalities.

MRQE: Movie Review Query Engine
www.mrqe.com/lookup

Rotten Tomatoes
www.rottentomatoes.com/

These two sites provide the full texts of movie reviews from a number of sources.

Internet Archive: Movie Archive

www.archive.org/details/movies

Provides access to free movies, films and videos (movie classics, animation, educational and industrial films, etc.), many of which can be downloaded.

For other useful Web sites in Film Studies, English and Theatre Arts, consult **Ann Ronchetti's library home page** at:

11. Films on DVD, video, laserdisc and 16mm film

The **Media Services Center** (in G-20 Hillman, at the back of the ground floor on the far right) has a sizable collection of films on DVD, video, laserdisc and 16mm film. These can be viewed at individual viewing stations within the Center or checked out for classroom use.

Records for the Center's holdings can be found in PittCat. To locate a particular film on DVD or video, use the **keyword search screen**, entering a distinctive title keyword in the title field in the first box and the word "videorecording" in the second box. To locate films on a particular subject, enter an appropriate keyword in the first box and the word "videorecording" in the second box.

There is also a **Web site listing the Center's holdings of DVDs and VHS videos of Slavic and East European films:**

www.pitt.edu/~slavic/video/

Pitt's **Language Media Center** (G17 CL) houses a number of films on DVD, along with its collection of foreign language instructional videos and CDs. Learn more about its holdings at:

www.polyglot.pitt.edu/mat/index.html

The recently acquired database *Theatre in Video* (on the "Databases A-Z" list on the library's Web site) contains streaming video of over 250 stage productions and film and television adaptations of plays as well as over 100 film documentaries. Among the adaptations are some of Shakespeare plays directed by Kenneth Branagh and by Laurence Olivier. All 37 of the BBC's Shakespeare productions made for television are also included. Notable stage and film actors appearing in the database's offerings include Olivier, Richard Dreyfuss, Walter Matthau, E.G. Marshall, Anthony Quayle, Diana Rigg, Jason Robards, Robert Redford, Martin Sheen, Meryl Streep, Eli Wallach, Sam Waterston and Jon Voigt, among many others. The database permits the bookmarking of particular scenes for easy access to them in teaching or in analyzing a production.

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