

## Subject Guides

# American Literary Criticism

This guide contains references to works concerned with American Literary Criticism. For more information, see the individual research guides on the *MLA International Bibliography*, *Critical Theory*, and *Drama and Theater Arts*, among others under “Research Guides” in the “Research Help” section of the ULS Homepage. For additional assistance, inquire at the Reference Desk.

### Introduction to the Topic:

*Oxford companion to American Literature*. 1995. Hillman Reference Desk **PS21 H3**

*Cambridge Handbook of American Literature*. 1986 Hillman Reference **PS21 C36**

*Cambridge History of American Literature*. 1994. Hillman Library **PS92 C34**

*Introduction to Literature, Criticism, and Theory: Key Critical Concepts*. 1995. Hillman Library **PN45 B39**

*Literary Terms and Criticism*. 1993. Hillman Library **PN44.5 P38**

### Dictionaries and Encyclopedias:

*American Writers: A Collection of Literary Biographies*. Hillman Reference Desk **PS129 A55**.

*Benet's Reader's Encyclopedia of American Literature*. 1991. Hillman Reference Desk. **PN41 B4**

*Contemporary Authors*. Hillman Reference **Z124 C7612**

*Contemporary Authors: Cumulative Index*. Hillman Reference Desk **Z1224 C761**

*Dictionary of Literary Terms*. 1992. Hillman Reference **PN44.5 G73**

*Glossary of Contemporary Literary Theory*. 1994. Hillman Reference **PN44.5 H37**

*Literary Terms: A Dictionary*. 1989. Hillman Reference Desk. **PN44.5 B334**

*Oxford Companion to American Theatre*. 1992. Hillman Reference Desk. **PN2220 B6**

### Print Indexes and Bibliographies

*A Guide to American Poetry Explication*. Hillman Reference **Z1231 P7L46**

*20<sup>th</sup> Century Short Story Explication* (1961-1991) Hillman Reference Desk **Z5917 S5W332**; 1900-1960 in Reference stacks **Z5917.S5 W18**

*Bibliographic Guide to the Study of the Literature of the USA*. 1984. Hillman Reference **Z1225 G6**

*The Year's Work in Modern Language Studies*. (1929-1999) Hillman Reference. **Z7006 Y39**

See Index Carrel #4 for Book Review Indexes. A detailed guide to finding book reviews is also available online under "Research Guides" in the "Research Help" section of the ULS Website. See Index Carrel #3 for General Literature and Periodical Indexes.

## Electronic Indexes and Fulltext Resources

*MLA International Bibliography*. Gives citations to works in journals and books. 1963-Present. Available online under "Indexes to Articles and Publications" in the "Online help" section of the ULS Homepage. Also available in print at Index Carrel #3.

*Literature Resource Center* (includes *Contemporary Authors* [Reference PN771 .H28], *Contemporary Literary Criticism* [Reference PN94 C6], *Dictionary of Literary Biography* [Reference PS221 D5], links to fulltext articles from 74 online literary journals, criticism from various Gale series of literary criticism (*Nineteenth-Century Literature Criticism* [Reference PN761 N5], *Poetry Criticism* [Reference PN1111 P63], *Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism* [Reference PN94 T84], etc.). A very comprehensive site, but **not** a substitute for Gale's extensive print resources. Available under "Electronic Resources A-Z" in the "Online Resources" section of the ULS Homepage.

Other relevant online indexes and fulltext resources would include *Expanded Academic ASAP*, *Academic Search Elite*, *Periodical Abstracts*, the "Arts and Humanities" section of *Web of Science*, *GenderWatch*, and *Women's Resources International*, among others. These are available under "Indexes to Articles and Publications" on the "Online Resources" section of the ULS Homepage.

There are several Electronic Journal Aggregators that give fulltext access to a significant number of Humanities-oriented periodicals. The journal content of all the journals offered by any one aggregator can be searched simultaneously. Relevant Aggregators include MUSE, JSTOR, and ECO. These are available under "Electronic Journals" in the "Online Resources" section of the ULS Homepage.

## Subject Headings Search Tips

Try using the terms below to find related materials in PITTCat using the Subject Heading search. You may also find books dealing with specific authors or their works by searching the author's name as a Subject Heading Search. e.g. MELVILLE, HERMAN

AMERICAN LITERATURE HISTORY AND CRITICISM  
AMERICAN LITERATURE BIOGRAPHY  
AMERICAN FICTION HISTORY AND CRITICISM  
AMERICAN POETRY HISTORY AND CRITICISM  
AMERICAN DRAMA HISTORY AND CRITICISM

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