

## Subject Guides

# Finding Book Reviews

### *Print & Electronic Indexes and Fulltext Sources*

With most print, and many online indexes, locating book reviews is a *two step* process. Finding citations to book reviews within periodicals using print or online indexes, and then using PITTcat to determine whether Pitt owns these periodicals in the correct volume, number, or year. *Not all periodicals indexed in the resources below will be found at Pitt.* Many online databases give immediate access to the fulltext of book reviews without an intermediate step.

#### Print Indexes:

*Book Review Digest* (1905-present) — Provides excerpts from book reviews of only U.S. publications published in 75 American periodicals. Index Carrels, #4

*Book Review Index* (1965-present) — An Index to book reviews in over 200 periodicals. Index Carrels, #4

*Index to Book Reviews in the Humanities* (1960-1990) — Covers reviews in several hundred periodicals, most of them English language publications. Compact Shelves #66-67, Call Number: Z1219.I38

*Current Book Review Citations* (1976-1982) — Indexes over 1,000 journals. Compact Shelves #66-67, Call Number: Z1219.C87

*Humanities Index 1974-present* — Contains a Book Reviews section at the end of each volume. Includes over 260 journal titles. Index Carrels, #10 and Compact Shelves #66-67, Call Number AI3 H8

*Social Sciences Index* (1966-present) — Provides a Book Reviews section at the end of each volume. Index Carrels, #10. Earlier years in the Buhl Collection (1st floor Hillman), and on Compact Shelves #66-67, Call Number, AI3 I61.

*Reviews in Anthropology* (1974-present) — Index Carrels, #4

*Political Science Reviewer* (1971-1981) — Compact Shelves #66-67, Call Number, JA1. P62

***Finding Other Relevant Print Indexes:*** See Hillman Ground Floor Index Carrel #4 for additional book review indexes. You can also search PITTcat for relevant periodical indexes using the “Keyword” search page. Type “Periodicals Indexes” in the first query box and select “Subject” from the adjacent drop-down box. In the next query box, type “Book Reviews” (or a keyword related to your field of study: e. g. Literature), select the “Subject” drop-down box, and execute the search.

#### Online Indexes and Fulltext Resources for Book Reviews:

Many of the online resources in the “Indexes to Articles and Publications” section of the ULS homepage index give fulltext access to book reviews. *The list below is not exhaustive.* Depending on the resource, there are a number of ways to limit searches to book reviews.

***Expanded Academic ASAP*** (Fulltext), ***Academic Search Elite*** (Some fulltext) — these general interest databases give access to periodicals from a broad range of academic disciplines, national

newspapers, and magazines. To limit to book reviews, go to the “Advanced Search” page, enter “book review” as a title in one query box, and the title of the book reviewed as a keyword or title in a second box. Execute the search.

**Academic Universe.** (Fulltext) — Go to “News” then to “Arts & Sports” and limit the “Source” to “Book, movie, music & play reviews.” Enter search terms and execute the search. Alternately, go to “News” then to “General News.” Select “More Options.” Enter “Book Review” in the first query box and select “Headline and Lead Paragraph(s).” Do the same to the second query box after entering the title of the book. Execute the search.

**Web of Science** [includes *Humanities, Social Science, and Science Citation Indexes*] (Citations and abstracts only). Select “Full Search,” then check the boxes next to the resources you wish to search and select “General Search.” Scroll to the bottom of the page and select “Book Review” in the “Set Limits” area. Scroll to the top of the page, enter your search query and execute the search.

**ProQuest Resources** [*ABI/INFORM Global, all PA Research databases, and Proquest Newspapers*] (Some fulltext) — Go to the “Guided” search page, type “DTYPE (book review)” in the first query box as a “Basic Fields” search, and the title of the book in the second query box as an “Article Title” or “Basic Fields” search. Execute the search.

Many other online resources allow searches limited to book reviews, including *America, History & Life, Ethnic NewsWatch, GenderWatch, Women’s Resources International, Historical Abstracts*, all *JSTOR* electronic journals, the *National Newspaper Index*, and *Sociological Abstracts*, among others. Look under “Indexes to Articles and Publications” on the “Online Resources” section of the ULS Homepage for more online indexes. You may also wish to try searching the Electronic Journal Aggregators relevant to your field of study. An annotated list of these is given on the “Electronic Journals” page, also on the “Online Resources” section of the ULS Homepage.

## Locating Periodicals

Consult PITTCat to see if Pitt subscribes to a certain periodical. Be sure to note whether Pitt owns the volume, number, or date of the periodical you need, and, if so, at which library it is located. *Not all libraries will have the same holdings for all periodicals.*

**Periodical Locations** — All Hillman periodicals published 1960 to the present are located on the 4th floor, shelved alphabetically by title. Unbound periodicals (usually from the current year) are housed in the Current Periodicals Room, also on the 4th floor. Journals published before 1960 may be found on the ground floor in the compact shelving (near Government Documents).

*Note: electronic versions of indexes frequently become available. You may inquire at the Hillman Information Desk to find out if any of the titles listed here have been released in electronic format since this handout was revised.*