



Literature: A Guide to Selected Resources

The following is a guide to selected resources in the field of literature available in Owen Library or through electronic access. It is not intended to be comprehensive. Please consult a Reference Librarian for advice about the best sources and research strategy for your specific topic.

Bibliographies

The Oxford Companion to American Literature

Reference PS21 .H3 1983

Contains entries related to American authors, with special attention paid to contemporary writers, women, and minorities.

Year's Work in English Studies

Available electronically through PITT*Cat*

Narrative bibliographic review of scholarly work on English language and literatures, in periodical format.

Biographies

African American Writers

Reference PS153 .N5 A344 2001

Available electronically through PITT*Cat*

The print version contains comprehensive biographies and selected bibliographies. The online edition is compiled more dictionary in its format, with briefer entries and no bibliography.

American Writers: A Collection of Literary Biographies

Reference PS129 .A55

Includes an overview of an author's life, as well as a selected bibliography.

Cyclopedia of World Authors

Reference PN451 .M36 1997

Contains biographical information and bibliography of an author's principle works (in chronological order and divided into categories).

Criticism

* Locate under "Find Articles" tab, then click "By TITLE" under Databases

John Hopkins Guide to Literary Theory and Criticism*

This comprehensive guide contains over 240 entries, covering critics and theorists, critical schools and movements, and critical innovations relating to geographic region and historical time period.

Library of Literary Criticism: Modern British Literature

Reference PR473 .T4

Covers literary works through the beginning of 20th century.

Literature Criticism Online*

This comprehensive database is an excellent source for criticism. The following titles are covered:

Contemporary Literary Criticism, Twentieth-century Literary Criticism, Nineteenth-century Literature Criticism, Shakespearean Criticism, Literature Criticism from 1400 to 1800, Classical and Medieval Literature Criticism, Poetry Criticism, Short Story Criticism, Drama Criticism, and Children's Literature Review. The database allows for advanced searching or browsing by Author or Work.

Literature Resource Center*

This database is rich in biographical, bibliographical, and critical content, and contains information on literary figures from all time periods, writing in such genres as fiction, nonfiction, poetry, drama, history, journalism, and more. *LRC* is built on three hallmark author databases: *Contemporary Authors Online*, offering biographical coverage of more than 100,000 writers; *Contemporary Literary Criticism Select*, feature entries on all authors appearing in *CLC* since vol. 95 of the print series and complete profiles of 266 most studied authors from editions prior to vol. 95; and *Dictionary of Literary Biography Online*, containing more than 10,000 bio-critical essays on authors and their works written by academic scholars. It also includes selected full-text, excerpted, and commissioned critical material from *Children's Literature Review*, *Classical and Medieval Literature Criticism*, *Drama Criticism*, *Nineteenth-Century Literature Criticism*, *Poetry Criticism*, *Shakespearean Criticism*, *Short Story Criticism*, and *Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism*.

MagillOnLiterature*

A good source for critical analyses, brief summaries of books, and book reviews.

MLA International Bibliography*

A comprehensive database with literary criticism and author information. Note that this database does not include book reviews; try *Academic Search Premier* instead.

Dictionaries

Concise Oxford Dictionary of Literary Terms Available online through Literature Online*

Critical Survey of Drama Reference PR1625 .C74 2003
Volumes 1-8. Contains biography and analysis of dramatists, and general essays organized by time period or topic. Volume 8 has an index. Covers the English language only.

Critical Survey of Short Fiction Reference PN3321 .C7 1993
Volumes 1-7. Volumes 1 and 2 are general essays, volumes 3-6 contain author biographies and analysis, and volume 7 includes an index.

Electronic Texts

* Locate under "Find Articles" tab, then click "By TITLE" under Databases

Early English Books Online*

This database contains almost 100,000 titles ranging from the 1400's to the late 1600's. Types of works include prose, poetry, drama, and books on philosophy, religion, science, and politics. The database also contains non-print items, including historic maps, coats of arms, music, and illustrations.

Humanities Text Initiative

<http://www.hti.umich.edu/>

Collections include the American Verse Project and Blake's Songs of Innocence and of Experience, among many others. Some texts are restricted to University of Michigan affiliates.

On-line Books Page

<http://digital.library.upenn.edu/books>

Over 30,000 books are accessible on this site, hosted by the University of Pennsylvania Libraries. The site is indexed by author, title, and subject. An archival index is also available.

Project Gutenberg

http://www.gutenberg.org/wiki/Main_Page

Contains over 25,000 free books, all available electronically. All texts are free and available for downloading. Users can browse for ebooks, or use the Online Book Catalog or Advanced Search options to locate information.

Indexes / Databases

* Locate under "Find Articles" tab, then click "By TITLE" under Databases

Academic Search Premier*

A multi-disciplinary database with full text articles dating back to 1990. Good source for locating book reviews.

Columbia Granger's Index to Poetry in Anthologies Reference PN1022 .H39 2007

Searchable by author, subject, first line, last line, or title. Look for anthologies in PITT*Cat+*.

Essay and General Literature Index Reference Index area

An index to essays and chapters on authors and subjects published in anthologies and miscellaneous works. Good for information on obscure authors, especially those not found in *Literature Resource Center*. Use PITT*Cat+* or EZ-Borrow to locate titles listed.

Gale Literary Index*

This index can be used to find biographies on authors and critical essays on their writings. It includes more than 13,000 author names and pseudonyms and 140,000 titles. Many items listed in the index can be found through PITT*Cat* or ordered through InterLibrary Loan.

Humanities International Index*

This database provides citations and abstracts for articles, essays, and reviews in the humanities, and also includes creative works such as poems, fiction, photographs, paintings, and illustrations.

Literature Online (LION)*

This database features an ever-growing and fully searchable collection of more than 350,000 works of English and American poetry, drama, and prose with complementary reference resources.

Selected Web Resources

Illuminations: The Critical Theory Web Site <http://www.uta.edu/huma/illuminations>

This site offers articles, book chapters, and excerpts from classic and contemporary Critical Theorists.

Literary Resources on the Net <http://andromeda.rutgers.edu/~jlynch/Lit/>

A subject-specific portal to information on a range of different literary topics, such as Renaissance or Women's Literature and Feminism.

The Poetry Archive <http://www.poetryarchive.org/poetryarchive/home.do>

This site contains audio files of early and contemporary poets reading their works. Searchable by author, title, theme, or form.

Representative Poetry Online <http://rpo.library.utoronto.ca/display/>

A useful site of poetry resources, including a glossary of poetic terms, a timeline, and criticism. The site indexes poets by name and date, poems by title, first, or last line, and is searchable by keyword.