



Resources for ENGL 299 “Introduction to the Advanced Study of Literature”
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FINDING BOOKS AND OTHER LIBRARY MATERIALS

OBIS is the Oberlin College Library’s online catalog; it lists most library materials. OBIS is searchable by **Author** or **Title** for a specific author or work, or by **Subject Heading** or **Keyword** for works about a topic, person, place, etc.

- **Subject Heading** searches are based on *Library of Congress Subject Headings* and search only the *Subjects* part of a catalog record
- **Keyword** searches find words, or a combination of words, that appear *anywhere* in a catalog record, including author, title, publisher, table of contents, and subjects.

*Writers can be searched as both **AUTHOR** (for writings by the person) and **SUBJECT** (for writings about the person and their works)*

Brontë, Emily, 1818-1848
Şālih, al-Ṭayyib
Shakespeare, William, 1564-1616

Useful subject subheadings
-- Bibliography
-- Biography
-- Criticism and interpretation
-- Encyclopedias
-- Interviews

FINDING INFORMATION ABOUT WRITERS AND LITERARY WORKS THROUGH REFERENCE SOURCES

Connect from Databases tab in the Library home page search box, or use the Quick Links drop-down menu

Literature Resource Center (product from Gale Cengage Learning)

Literary Reference Center Plus (product from EBSCO)

These two databases provide biographical, bibliographical, and critical content on literary figures and their works from all time periods and genres. Information comes from reference works, books, and literary journals. Included are biographies, plot summaries, journal articles, reviews, and more.

FINDING INFORMATION ABOUT LITERARY MOVEMENTS, THEORIES, TECHNIQUES, AND CONCEPTS

The Johns Hopkins Guide to Literary Theory & Criticism. Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press. e-book, connect from OBIS, updated periodically

A full-text searchable database of articles on individual critics and theorists, critical and theoretical schools and movements, and the critical and theoretical innovations of specific countries and historical periods. It also treats related persons and fields that have been shaped by or have themselves shaped literary theory and criticism. Each entry includes a selective primary and secondary bibliography.

Literary Movements for Students: Presenting Analysis, Context, and Criticism on Literary Movements.

2nd ed. Detroit: Gale, Cengage Learning, 2009. (2 vols.)

e-book, connect from OBIS—Gale Virtual Reference Library version recommended

FINDING CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION ON HISTORICAL TIME PERIODS

A Companion to English Renaissance Literature and Culture. Oxford, UK: Blackwell, 2000.

Main Library PR411 .C66 2000

All Things Shakespeare: An Encyclopedia of Shakespeare's World. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2002.

Main Reference PR2892 .O56 2002 (2 vols.)

The Oxford Companion to Shakespeare. 2nd ed. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 2015.

e-book, connect from OBIS

Europe 1450 to 1789: Encyclopedia of the Early Modern World. New York : Charles Scribner's Sons : Thomson/Gale, 2004.

e-book, connect from OBIS; also in print at Main Reference D209 .E97 2004 (6 vols.)

Encyclopedia of European Social History from 1350 to 2000. New York: Scribner, 2001.

e-book, connect from OBIS; also in print at Main Reference HN373 .E63 2000 (6 vols.)

Encyclopedia of the Enlightenment. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002.

e-book, connect from OBIS; also in print at Main Oversize B802 .E53 2003 (4 vols.)

The Oxford Encyclopedia of American Cultural and Intellectual History. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013.

e-book, connect from OBIS; also in print at Main Reference E169.1 .O945 2013 (2 vols.)

Oxford African American Studies Center—select from Databases tab on library home page

An online searchable collection of articles, images, maps, and primary source documents from reference titles published by Oxford University Press; covers African American and African and African diaspora history and culture. Includes content from *Encyclopedia of African American history 1619-1895: From the Colonial Period to the Age of Frederick Douglass* and *Encyclopedia of African American History, 1896 to the Present*.

USING DATABASES TO FIND LITERARY CRITICISM IN SCHOLARLY JOURNALS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Connect from Databases tab in the Library home page search box, or use the Quick Links drop-down menu

☞ To determine if the library has a particular journal, Use “360 Link to Full Text” or “Find It!” when available in research databases, or select the **Journal Finder** tab on Library home page or from the Quick Links pull-down menu

☆ *MLA International Bibliography.*

Indexes books and articles from 6,000+ journals in world literature and modern language.

☆ *The World Shakespeare Bibliography Online*

Published for the Folger Shakespeare Library by Johns Hopkins University Press. Annotated entries for books, articles, book reviews, dissertations, theatrical productions, theater reviews, films, audio recordings, electronic media, and other scholarly and popular materials related to Shakespeare.

Humanities International Complete.

Indexes journals, books, and other sources on all aspects of the humanities, with particular focus on literary, scholarly and creative thought.

Academic Search Complete.

Indexes articles from 13,000+ general and academic periodicals in all disciplines; over 65% of the journals indexed include full text, and most are peer-reviewed.

JSTOR

Digital library of 2,400+ core academic journals (~335 in language and literature), starting with the first volume published, along with thousands of monographs and other materials, largely in social sciences and humanities disciplines; few recent issues are available (most titles have a 3-5 year “moving wall”); every word of every article is searchable, which gives it a certain edge over *MLA International Bibliography*, and is also a feature that has both an upside and a downside!

USING DATABASES TO FIND ARTICLES IN POPULAR MAGAZINES (JOURNALISM, REVIEWS)

MasterFILE Premier

Indexes 2,400+ general, mass market, and consumer-oriented magazines covering nearly all subjects; around 70% include full text.

Readers' Guide Abstracts (covers 1983-present) and *Readers' Guide Retrospective* (covers 1890-1982)

These two related databases index articles published in U.S. and Canadian popular, general interest magazines from the late 19th c. to the present.

SUMMON – FIRST (DEFAULT) TAB ON LIBRARY HOME PAGE SEARCH BOX

- searches across the spectrum of library content: books, scholarly articles, newspapers, data, audio, video, images, government documents, and more; searches many, *but not all*, library resources
- draws from OBIS, many full text and article indexing databases, and (if you select the box) digital repositories at other colleges, universities, research centers, and open-access archives
- if links don't lead to full text, be persistent or ask for help; we probably *do* have access
- when *not* to use Summon:
 - OBIS and OhioLINK are generally better for finding books
 - subject specific databases are generally better for complex or disciplinary searches

RESOURCES ON WRITING IN LITERATURE

The Wiley Guide to Writing Essays about Literature. Malden, MA: Wiley Blackwell, 2014. e-book

Writing about Literature. 13th ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 2012.

Main Library PE1479.C7 R59 2012

A Contemporary Guide to Literary Terms: with Strategies for Writing Essays about Literature. 3rd ed.

Boston, MA: Wadsworth Cengage Learning, 2012.

Main Library PN44.5 .B332 2012

CITING YOUR SOURCES

MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers. 8th ed. New York: Modern Language Association of America, 2016.

Main Reference LB2369 .G53 2016

The Chicago Manual of Style. 17th ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2017.

ebook, connect via OBIS , print copy Main Reference Z253 .U69 2017 (and other locations, ck. OBIS)

Purdue Online Writing Lab (aka the OWL). Maintained by Perdue University.

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>

See the Research and Citation section for examples of how to cite resources using APA, MLA, and Chicago citation styles.

HOW TO GET MATERIALS NOT AVAILABLE AT OBERLIN

OhioLINK/SearchOhio

- combines the holdings of 120 colleges and university libraries, and 28 public library systems, in Ohio
 - ☞ *does not include delivery of journal articles – see section below on ILL*
- to request: do-it-yourself online searching and requesting
- Barcode is the number on the back of your OCID (*not* your T-number)
- how long it takes: allow 3-4 business days
- loan period: 3 weeks + up to 6 three-week renewals if item has not been requested by someone else

Interlibrary Loan (ILL or ILLiad)

- use for: articles in journals not available at Oberlin, books not available from OhioLINK
- how it works: libraries lend materials to each other; for journal articles they may send scanned pdfs
- to request: select “ILLiad/Interlibrary Loan” from the Quick Links menu on the Library’s home page; set up an account; enter and track ILL requests online
- how long it takes: allow 1-2 weeks; many articles arrive much more quickly
- loan period: journal articles are yours to keep; loan period for books varies

HOW TO GET RESEARCH HELP AT THE LIBRARY

Drop-in help at the Research Help Desk. Just stop by and tell us what you need

Monday–Thursday: 10am–noon, 1–5pm, & 7pm–midnight
Friday: 10am–noon & 1–5pm
Weekend: Sat.: 2–4 pm, Sunday: 1–5pm & 7 pm–midnight

IM. Chat online with a member of Oberlin’s reference staff (ObieRef) – hours same as above

Phone. 440-775-5031 – hours same as above

Email. reference@oberlin.edu – any time

Research appointment. Sign up online from the library home page

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