Scholarly Sources for Literary Studies

The goal of today’s session is to become acquainted with the scholarly sources for literary study (books and journals) available from the Wayne State libraries. Specifically, you will:

- Use the English Research Guide for recommended resources for background and cultural context.
- Use library catalogs to identify scholarly books and book chapters.
- Identify appropriate library databases for searching topics on literary studies.
- Use effective search techniques to locate scholarly journal articles.

Library Research Guide: English

Created by librarians in the Wayne State Library System, these research guides are designed to lead you to appropriate academic resources, including databases, for the discipline:

“Finding Scholarly Sources for Literary Studies”  http://guides.lib.wayne.edu/english/literary

Background & Cultural Context

- Cambridge Histories & Companions
  These helpful overviews of literature, authors, cultural characteristics can be found as print books or online.

- Literature Resource Center
  A library database with a wealth of information on authors, details on their lives, and samplings of literary criticism.

#1 Background Source: Using one or more of the background sources listed above, locate an article that provides context on the author or work you are researching. Cite the book in MLA style, using a citation generator or online style guide such as the Purdue OWL.
Books & Book Chapters

- **WSU library catalog** Wayne State libraries

  Example: KEYWORD search using: “jane austen”

- **MelCat** Michigan Libraries

  - SUBJECT: Look for “criticism and interpretation”

- **Interlibrary Loan**

  Your interlibrary loan account gives you access to books and articles from libraries throughout the US and the world.

#2 Book Citation: Using one or more of the library catalogs listed above, locate a book that contains literary criticism of your selected author and/or literary work. Cite the book in MLA style, using a citation generator or online style guide such as the Purdue OWL.

Finding Articles with “Recommended Article Databases”

Find articles and book chapters of literary criticism by using recommended article databases. Each research guide provides a list of “Article Databases” or “Recommended Article Databases to lead you to appropriate databases for the discipline. Consult the English research guide or specific course page for the list.
Effective Database Searching

- Use the **Advanced Search** for best results.

- Use **keywords** (important words in the topic), not a string of words or a question. Enclose phrases in quotation marks for more effective searching.

- Use the facets to identify different types of articles/publications, limit to peer-reviewed, or by date.

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**MLA international Bibliography**

**Advanced Search**

- **autson**
- **AND** “pride and prejudice” **OR**
- **AND** gender **OR** women

**Narrow results by**

- **Peer reviewed**
  - Peer reviewed (45)
  - Other (68)
- **Source type**
  - Journal Article (62)
  - Book Article (37)
  - Dissertation Abstract (8)
  - Book (9)
  - More options...
- **Publication date**
  - 1987 - 2014 (years)

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**MLA bibliography (ProQuest)**

MLA BIBLIOGRAPHY (online) is the largest and most comprehensive database covering current scholarship in the modern languages, literatures, and folklore. MLA BIBLIOGRAPHY (online) corresponds to the printed annual bibliography of the Modern Language Association.

**Web of Science (ISI)**

Online version of the ISI indexes: Science Citation Index Expanded and Social Sciences Citation Index from 1975-. A search can be limited to one index (i.e. Science Citation Index OR Social Science Citation Index).

**#3 Article or Book Chapter Citation:** Using the MLA Bibliography, identify one journal article or book chapter related to your chosen author and/or text. Cite the source below in MLA style, using the database citation generator:
#4 Article Citation: Using the Web of Science database, identify one journal article related to your chosen author and/or text. Cite the source below in MLA style, using the database citation generator or online style guide such as the Purdue OWL:

Locating Full Text
When the article full text is not attached, click the 360 link to locate it.

- If the item is a book or book chapter, search the library catalog for the title.

When the full text is not available, use the “Request Full Text” button to request the article from another library.

Need Additional Help? Judith Arnold, Librarian IV judith.arnold@wayne.edu 134 Purdy/Kresge Library
(313) 577-8368
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