Resources for Literary Criticism - ENG 120

Library Website:  http://library.lehman.cuny.edu

**Finding Articles**

- From the library homepage, click on “Electronic Databases” or “Find Articles” to search a wealth of databases indexing published articles. Below is a selected list of e-resources to use for your research.

- **IMPORTANT**: Some of the databases include the full-text of the articles. If you don’t see an indication of full-text click on the option to locate a journal article electronically or print. If you are not successful try searching Find Electronic Journals by Title and/or the Find Books & Journal Titles in the Catalog from the library homepage. See handout on finding journals for more information.

- You can access these databases off-campus (at home). You must first register your ID card at the Circulation Desk (1st floor). Select the database you wish to search. You will be prompted to type in your library number located on the front of your ID card.

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<tr>
<th>Humanities Abstracts</th>
<th>Scribner Writer's Series</th>
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<tr>
<td>Subjects covered include Archaeology, Area Studies, Art, Classical Studies, Communications, Dance, Film, Folklore, Gender Studies, History, Journalism, Linguistics, Literary &amp; Social Criticism Literature, Music, Performing Arts, Philosophy, Religion and Theology Coverage: 1984-present</td>
<td>includes 15-20 page signed essays on more than 1,600 authors and literary genres drawn from 13 acclaimed Scribner print series.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Literature Resource Center</th>
<th>Twayne’s Author Series</th>
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<tr>
<td>Provides researchers access to biographical, bibliographical and contextual information from the Contemporary Authors, Dictionary of Literary Biography, Contemporary Literary Criticism Select, and the MLA INTERNATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY databases. Also available are more than 285,000 full-text journal articles, 38,000 critical essays, 122,000 author biographies, and the Merriam-Webster's Encyclopedia of Literature.</td>
<td>contains the full text of 200 frequently used Twayne’s Literary Masters books on individual World, US, or English authors, for a total of 600 full-text titles.</td>
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<tr>
<th>MagillOnLiterature Plus</th>
<th>Gale Literary Index</th>
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<td>Is the definitive online source for editorially reviewed critical analyses and brief plot summaries of the most studied works in the history of literature. This database, which is compiled by Salem Press, contains all of Masterplots and Masterplots II, Cyclopedia of World Authors, Cyclopedia of Literary Characters, and Magill's Literary Annual.</td>
<td>Master index to the major literature resources published by Gale. Contemporary Literary Criticism, 19th Century Literary Criticism, Poetry Criticism, etc.</td>
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<th>ProjectMUSE</th>
<th>Oxford Reference Online</th>
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<td>Offers nearly 250 journal titles from 40 scholarly publishers. Project MUSE covers the fields of literature and criticism, history, the visual and performing arts, cultural studies, education, political science, gender studies, economics, and many others.</td>
<td>This resource provides full-text access to 100 reference works published by Oxford University Press. Subject areas covered: art, biology, classics, English dictionaries and thesauruses, literature, modern languages, mythology and folklore, religion, theater, etc.</td>
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<th>JSTOR</th>
<th>Columbia Encyclopedia</th>
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<td>Has created a full text digital archive of core scholarly journals with complete back runs of many titles. Arts and Sciences I, II, &amp; III and Language and Literature.</td>
<td>The Columbia Encyclopedia contains nearly 51,000 entries and with more than 80,000 hypertext cross-references</td>
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<th>MasterFILE Premier</th>
<th>Academic Search Premier</th>
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<td>Provides information on a broad range of topics including general interest, business, health and multi-cultural. Includes searchable full text for nearly 1,860 journals, including Consumer Reports and Business Week with full text dating as far back as January 1990.</td>
<td>Provides full text for nearly 3,180 scholarly publications covering academic areas of study including social sciences, humanities, education, computer sciences, engineering, language and linguistics, arts Et literature, medical sciences, and ethnic studies.</td>
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</table>
Use a database to locate articles on a topic.

Type in your terms on the line(s) given.
Use AND to narrow your search
Use OR to expand your search
Too many hits? Try changing the default fields.
Some of your results may be available full-text. For others refer to handout on “Finding Journals at Lehman.”

THE CITATION
Provides all the information needed for the bibliography, works cited or reference list.

Literature Resource Center/MLA International Bibliography

Use Literature Resource Center to locate biographical information and selected literature criticism excerpts from magazines, journals and books. Search by author, TITLE, or use the ADVANCED feature to search several criteria at once.

Use MLA International Bibliography to locate literary criticism articles in books and journals. MLA can be used to locate literary genres and concepts. For example: Symbolism and Poe (will find resources on Edgar Allan Poe’s use of symbolism in his writing).

Click on one or more of the tabs to explore the information contained in this database. Best choices Biographies; Literary Criticism... Additional Resources
Finding Books

1. Click on Find Books & Journal Titles in the Catalog from homepage
2. The catalog will default to Lehman College if you access it on campus. When you access the catalog from home, click on “Select Individual CUNY Libraries” to select Lehman.
3. You have two search options Keyword or Browse
   a. Keyword (Use this option to search for two or three terms. For more advanced searching use GUIDED SEARCH)
      i. Use AND to narrow your search
         1. Example - poetry AND criticism
      ii. Use OR to broaden a search
         1. Example - poetry OR poets
      iii. Use * (asterisk) or ? (Question mark) to truncate a term
         1. Example - poet* (searches for poet, poets, poetic, poetry)
   b. Browse (Use this search option if you know what you are looking for)
      i. Title - If a title begins with A, AN, or THE leave it out and begin with the next word
         1. Example - Grapes of Wrath
      ii. Author - Search last name first
         1. Example - Williams Tennessee
      iii. Subject - Searching for information about someone or a general topic
         1. Example - Poe Edgar Allan (will find information on this author)
         2. Example - poets, american

Useful SUBJECT search terms in the library catalog:
- American literature
- American poetry - History and criticism
- American poetry - 20th century
- Hispanic Americans in Literature
- Poets, English
- Science Fiction

Also useful for locating criticism is searching for the authors' name as a subject: Useful subject heading to look for:
- Biography
- Influence
- Criticism and interpretation

SEARCHING for BOOKS

KEYWORD SEARCHING
Use to search for broad terms. Examples:
- poetry and criticism Hispanic*
- and literature

BROWSE SEARCHING
TITLE to search for a title of a book or journal
Examples:
- Mystery to a Solution
- Journal of Modern Literature

AUTHOR to search for books written by the author
Example: Hemingway Ernest

SUBJECT to search for books about the author
Example: Poe Edgar Allan
(See image below)
Print Resources
Located on the 1st floor in the Reference Area.

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<tr>
<th>Print Resources</th>
<th>Reference</th>
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<tr>
<td>Poetry Criticism</td>
<td>PN1010 .P499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Bedford Glossary of Critical and Literary Terms</td>
<td>PN44.5 .M86 2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masterplots II. Poetry</td>
<td>PN1110.5 .M37 1992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notable Poets</td>
<td>PN1021 .N68 1998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Literature Criticism</td>
<td>PS153.N5 B556 1992</td>
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Selected Literary Criticism Web Sites
Source: Librarians' Index to the Internet - http://lii.org

Online Literary Criticism Collection
http://www.ipl.org/div/litcrit/
Links to over 4,000 critical and biographical resources dealing with American and British literature from pre-1500 to the twentieth century. Each link is annotated and can be accessed by author, work or literary period. The links are selected "for their overall usefulness" for high school and college students. A literary criticism guide and a pathfinder have been provided for further exploration of Web and print resources. From The Internet Public Library.

LitLinks
http://www.bedfordstmartins.com/litlinks/
Within the genres of fiction, poetry, essays, drama, and critical theory are lists of authors, each with a short list of annotated links to Web sites followed by a brief biography taken from one of the Bedford/St. Martin's reference texts. Additionally there are links to information on literary periods, from medieval to contemporary. Although some links may be broken, the many that work lead to authoritative information on the author or literary period.

Critical Reading: A Guide
http://www.brocku.ca/english/jlye/criticalreading.html
Designed for first year college students, this is a basic guide to what you might look for in analyzing literature, particularly poetry and fiction. For poetry, includes sections on genre, speaker, structure, setting, and imagery. For fiction, topics include plot, character, setting, figurative language, world-view. Also has a section on writing an analytical essay.

Librarians and Information Science - Suite101.com
http://www.suite101.com/welcome.cfm/librarians_information_science
Recent topics covered include "How to Find Literary Criticism on the Internet. Maintained by librarian Gillian Davis.

The Edgar Allan Poe Society of Baltimore
http://www.eapoe.org/
Topics range from standard bibliographical references and biography to Poe's family tree, appearance, religion, finances, and death. The selection of Poe's work includes at least one version of every surviving poem and tale; essays, lectures, and literary criticism; and all known letters, including fakes. Poe's life in Baltimore is chronicled with links to many historic sites and images. Links to other Poe-related organizations and Web sites complete this impressive source. Unanswered questions about Poe? Nevermore!

Voice of the Shuttle
http://vos.ucsb.edu/
Links to humanities and humanities-related resources on the Internet. Its mission has been to provide a structured and briefly annotated guide to online resources. VoS emphasizes both primary and secondary (or theoretical) resources, and defines its audience as people who have something to learn from a higher education, professional approach to the humanities (which in practice has included students and instructors from the elementary school, high school, and general population sectors).