

Research Guide For Literature

The Library provides resources to support the English program. This guide is meant to help students effectively use those resources.

Library Website

The **Library HomePage** acts as a menu to library resources and other useful information. It can be found at: <http://www.jalc.edu/lrc/library/>. It includes links to library resources as well as links to library services, to assistance in writing and reference list creation, and to e-mail and chat reference services.

Books

The **Library Catalog** includes the holdings (books and videos) of John A. Logan College Library and the Media Distribution Center as well as the holdings of other libraries in the Illinois Heartland Library System consortium. It can be reached from the **Find Books and Media** link on the left side of the **Library HomePage**. **Search tips:** A keyword search can be problematic and may take several searches to be effective. One keyword search is **Literature Criticism** which retrieves many potential subject headings. Scroll through the list of subject headings and choose one of interest. Once you have a list of titles, you can limit the results to those items owned by John A. Logan Library by choosing "John A. Logan" from the "Limit by" pulldown menu in the upper right of the screen. When you find an interesting book, look at the subject headings in the record. By selecting any one of those subject links, you can refine your search to include all books with that particular subject heading. Title keyword searches work well for Literature topics too. You can check on due dates and renew materials from within the catalog by clicking on "my account", logging in using your barcode and PIN, and viewing/selecting items within your account.

Browsing: You can also browse the shelves at the library. The books in the library are organized by the Library of Congress Classification system, which uses letters and numbers as a code for a subject. This code is referred to as the call number. The following LC classes will be helpful to you:

PA 3000-8595 - for Classical, Byzantine, Roman, Greek, and Latin Literature;

PB 1001-3029 – for Celtic Literature;

PG - for Slavic, Baltic and Albanian Literature;

PJ 306-8517 – for Oriental Literature;

PK 1-8832 – for Indo-Iranian Literature;

PL – for Eastern Asia, African, and Oceanic Literature;

PN – for general literature;

PQ 1-3999 – for French Literature;

PQ 4001-5999 – for Italian Literature;

PQ 6001-8929 – for Spanish Literature;

PQ 9000-9999 – for Portuguese Literature;

PR – for English Literature;

PS 1-3626 – for American Literature;

PS 8001-8599 – for Canadian Literature;

PT 1-4897 – for German Literature;

PT 5001-5980 – for Dutch Literature;

PT 6000-6466.36 – for Flemish Literature;

PT 6500-6592.36 – for Afrikaans Literature;

PT 7001-7099 – for Scandinavian Literature;

PT 7101-7338 – for Old Norse Literature;

PT 7351-7550 – for Modern Icelandic Literature;

PT 7581-7599 – for Faroese Literature;

PT 7601-8260 – for Danish Literature;

PT 8301-9155 – for Norwegian Literature;

PT 9201-9999 – for Swedish Literature;

PZ – for Juvenile Literature.

Most books about Literature have call numbers beginning with **PA, PB, PG, PJ, PK, PL, PN, PQ, PR, PS, PT, or PZ** and are shelved in those call number areas in the stacks

and in the reference collection. You can browse those shelves for additional books, dictionaries, manuals, and encyclopedias.

Borrowing from other Libraries

As part of the Illinois Heartland Library System, you may use your barcode and PIN to request material from other libraries in the consortium from within the Library Catalog. Depending on availability, items usually are delivered to the library within three days to one week. If you do not find what you are looking for in the Library Catalog or in our Online Databases, you can request materials from outside the Illinois Heartland Library System by using the **Book Request Form** in the **Find Books and Media** link from the Library HomePage or you can pick up a form at the circulation desk. Please ask a Librarian for assistance if you need help in completing the form.

eBooks

The library has a number of searchable databases of electronic books covering a wide variety of subject areas including a large number of books on business. They can be found by clicking on the **Find Books and Media** link and choosing one of the following links:

The **eBook Collection** contains digitized versions of books in all subject areas selected and purchased for use by the JALC community. Thousands of books are available from literary works to literary criticism.

Credo Reference contains dictionaries, bilingual dictionaries, thesauri, encyclopedias, quotations and atlases, plus a wide range of subject-specific titles covering every topic including literary titles on genres and individual authors.

Sage Reference is a collection of reference books on a wide variety of subjects mostly in the social sciences which include information on literary topics.

Databases

Finding Articles: Use periodical indexes and databases to locate articles, reports, and other documents on your topic. Most of these resources provide full-text articles, which you can print, save, or e-mail. We also have print subscriptions to a small number of magazines and journals. If an article you need is not available at the John A. Logan Library in either print or electronic format, you can request the article from another library through Interlibrary Loan using the forms found either at the Circulation Desk or on the library's website by clicking on **Find Journals and Articles** from the Library HomePage and choosing **Article Request Form**.

To access the journal/article databases, from the Library's HomePage, click on **Find Journals and Articles**. The menu will guide you in selecting the appropriate place to begin your research.

OneSearch allows searching of multiple databases at a time. After clicking on OneSearch, choose as many as databases as appropriate to search. The following databases represent the most useful for research in the art field and can be searched simultaneously using OneSearch or individually by selecting them from the **Databases in Alphabetical Order** link:

Academic Search Complete is a large multi-disciplinary database that provides full text for more than 7,100 journals, including full text for more than 6,100 peer-reviewed titles. Indexing is provided for over 11,000 journals and other publications. PDF backfiles to 1887 are available.

ClasePeriodica is an index of Latin American journals in the sciences and the humanities. It has limited full text so Interlibrary Loan will be needed for most articles.

Contemporary Literary Criticism contains biographical and literary criticism on the works of novelists, poets, playwrights, short story writers, and other creative writers now living or who died after January 1, 2000.

Literary Reference Center provides users with comprehensive information on authors and literature from antiquity to the present day. It is a comprehensive database that combines information from over 1,000 books and monographs, major literary encyclopedias and reference works, hundreds of literary journals, and unique sources not available anywhere else.

NoveList Plus contains feature articles, Book Talks, and Book Discussion Guides for over 150,000 fiction titles and over 50,000 nonfiction titles.

NoveList K-8 Plus is a reading resource for children's fiction and nonfiction.

Oxford English Dictionary is the authority on the evolution of the English Language. It is a guide to the meaning, history, and pronunciation of over half a million words. It traces the usage of words through 2.5 million quotations from a wide range of sources.

Wilson Biographies Plus includes biographical as well as literary criticism of authors along with photos and other pertinent information.

Literature Websites

Information on careers in the field as well as information on the latest research or news in the field can be found in websites. The Internet can be a valuable source for supplementing the information you have gathered from books and periodicals. It is important that you evaluate the information you get from the Internet to determine if it is reliable and useful to your research. The sites that follow represent only a few of those that are available.

Associations

Academy of American Poets: <http://www.poets.org/>

American Literature Association:
<http://www.calstatela.edu/academic/english/ala2/>

Children's Literature Association: <http://www.childlitassn.org/>

Modern Humanities Research Association: <http://www.mhra.org.uk/>

Modern Language Association: <http://www.mla.org/>

National Council of Teachers of English: <http://www.ncte.org/>

Poetry Foundation: <http://www.poetryfoundation.org>

Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing:
<http://www.sharpweb.org/>

Literature Resources

Glossary of Literary Terms: <http://www.virtualsalt.com/litterms.htm>

Glossary of Poetic Terms: <http://www.poeticbyway.com/glossary.html>

Handbook of Rhetorical Devices: <http://www.virtualsalt.com/rhetoric.htm>

Hiphop, Performance Poetry, Spoken Word, Slam: Definitions from a Teenager:
<http://poetry.about.com/od/poeticspoetryanalysis/a/emandefinitions.htm>

Literary History: <http://www.literaryhistory.com/index.htm>

Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary/Thesaurus: <http://www.merriam-webster.com/>

OpenMic: the Definition: <http://poetry.about.com/od/livepoetry/a/openmic.htm>

Perspectives in American Literature:
<http://www.csustan.edu/english/reuben/home.htm>

Poetry Is: <http://www.quasha.com/art-is/poetry.is>

Reference.com: <http://www.reference.com/>

Shmoop: <http://www.shmoop.com>

WriteExpress Online Rhyming Dictionary:
<http://www.writeexpress.com/online2.html>

Selected Full Text Journals/Newsletters/Books/Poetry

Alex Catalogue of Electronic Texts: <http://infomotions.com/alex/>

American Authors on the Web: <http://www.lang.nagoya-u.ac.jp/~matsuoka/AmeLit.html>

American Verse Project: <http://quod.lib.umich.edu/a/amverse/>

Bartlebys: <http://www.bartleby.com/>

Bibliomania: <http://www.bibliomania.com/>

Blake: Songs of Innocence and of Experience:
<http://quod.lib.umich.edu/b/blaketc/>

Brief Timeline of American Literature and Events: Pre 1620 – 1920:
<http://www.wsu.edu/~campbell/amlit/>

British Women Romantic Poets: <http://quod.lib.umich.edu/b/bwrp/>

Complete Works of Ralph Waldo Emerson: <http://quod.lib.umich.edu/e/emerson/>

Electronic Poetry Center: <http://wings.buffalo.edu/epc/>

Find Articles – The Arts: http://findarticles.com/p/articles/tn_arts

Full Books: <http://www.fullbooks.com/>

Internet Classics Archive: <http://classics.mit.edu/>

Literature Online: <http://www.literature.org/>

Online Book Page (University of Pennsylvania):
<http://onlinebooks.library.upenn.edu/>

Oxford Text Archive: <http://ota.oucs.ox.ac.uk/catalogue/index-id.html>

Perseus Digital Library: <http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/collections>

Project Gutenberg: <http://www.gutenberg.org/>

Metasites Developed by Other Libraries/Literary Associations

Cal State University, Fullerton Library:

<http://www.library.fullerton.edu/guides/english/Home.php>

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

Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing:

<http://www.sharpweb.org/>

Yale University Library:

<http://www.library.yale.edu/humanities/english/index.html>

Guides and tutorials

The Library has a range of research guides that will help with searching resources, writing papers, and with references. They can be found by linking to **Research Guides** on the library's HomePage.