

Literature

Subject Research Guide

Contained within this document are selected resources at the Monmouth University Library, useful for locating information on literature. For additional resources, search the Library catalog or call the reference desk at 732.571.3438.

Finding Books

Visit <http://millenium.monmouth.edu/search.html> to find literary texts in the Monmouth University Online Library Catalog.

The library has many literary works in its Reference and Main collections. To locate a particular work, perform a keyword search in the Library Catalog using an author's name or a book title.

You might also wish to perform a search with the word "criticism." For example: **Great Gatsby Fitzgerald criticism**

You can also limit a search to the Reference collection using the Keyword > Location option in the catalog.

General Reference Materials

Writers

Use these sources to get biographical and critical profiles of authors.

Ref. PR 19 O94 2000 *British Writers*. 8 vols.

Ref. PS 129 A55 *American Writers*. 8 vols.

Ref. PS 147 A4 *American Women Writers: A Critical Reference Guide from Colonial Times to the Present*. 5 vols.

Ref. PS 153 N5 P3 *Selected Black American Authors*.

Ref PL 8010 A453 1997 *Contemporary Authors*. Multiple vols. PS 128 C65. Also online: see [Research Databases](http://library.monmouth.edu/researchdb/researchdb.php) (<http://library.monmouth.edu/researchdb/researchdb.php>)
African Writers.

Literary Criticism (Reference)

Below you'll find a sample of references materials associated with literary criticism:

- Ref. PR 2965 S44 *Shakespeare Criticism*. Multiple vols.
Ref. PN 761 N56 *Nineteenth-Century Literature Criticism*. Multiple vols.
Ref. PN 771 C66x *Contemporary Literary Criticism*. Multiple vols.
Ref. PN 771 G27 *Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism*. Multiple vols.
Ref. PN 44.5 A2 1999 *Glossary of Literary Terms* (Abrahms).

Literature Resource Center: see the Research Databases at (<http://library.monmouth.edu/researchdb/researchdb.php>). To find criticism, choose the "Advanced" search. Type in search terms and select "Critical Essay" from the "Document Type" menu. Use the "Title" search for criticism on a particular work.

Literature Online: see the Research Databases at (<http://library.monmouth.edu/researchdb/researchdb.php>). Choose "Criticism & Reference."

MLA International Bibliography: see the Research Databases at (<http://library.monmouth.edu/researchdb/researchdb.php>). No full-text.

Guides/Histories (Reference)

Use the following sources to find guides to genres of literature, bibliographies (lists of works), literature from specific ethnic groups or geographical locations, literary companions, literary history:

- Ref. PR 19 O94 2000 *Oxford Companion to English Literature*.
Ref. PR 8706 O88 1996 *Oxford Companion to Irish Literature*.
Ref. PR 2892 H3 1964a *Shakespeare Companion*.
Ref. PS 147 O94 1995 *Oxford Companion to Women's Writing in the United States*.
Ref. PS 261 C55 2002 *Companion to Southern Literature: Themes, Genres, Places, People, Movements, and Motifs*.
Ref. PS 153 N5 O96 1997 *Oxford Companion to African-American Literature*.
Ref. PS 663 M55 V64 1996 *Voices of Multicultural America*
Ref. PQ 7081 A1 E56 1997 *Encyclopedia of Latin-American Literature*.
Ref. PR 85 R42 1996 *Reader's Guide to Literature in English*.
Ref. PN 41 E487 1988 *Encyclopedia of the Novel*. 2 vols.
Ref. PN 771 E5 1999 *Encyclopedia of World Literature in the Twentieth Century*.

- Ref. PN 849 E9 S444 2003 *Columbia Guide to the Literatures of Eastern Europe Since 1945.*
- Ref. PN 524 K87 2003 *Timetables of World Literature.*

Literature Resource Center: see the Research Databases at (<http://library.monmouth.edu/researchdb/researchdb.php>).

Try the "Authors by Type" search to search by genre, theme, literary movement, etc.

Poetry (Reference)

- Ref. PN 1010 P499 *Poetry Criticism.* Multiple vols.
- Ref. PN 1022 H39 2002 *Granger's Index to Poetry.*
- Ref. PN 1021 C7 2003 *Critical Survey of Poetry.* Multiple vols.
- Ref. PS 303 A44 *American and British Poetry: A Guide to the Criticism.*
- Ref. PR 601 C56 2001 *Companion to Twentieth-Century Poetry.*
- Ref. PS 316 E53 1998 *Encyclopedia of American Poetry: The Nineteenth Century.*
- Ref. PN 1022 .K55 1992 *Last Lines: An Index to the Last Lines of Poetry.* 2 vols.
- Ref. PN1042 .W514 1986 *Patterns of Poetry: An Encyclopedia of Forms.*

Theater (Reference)

- Ref. PN 1625 C68 2003 *Critical Survey of Drama.* Multiple vols.
- Ref. PN 1861 W67 1994 *World Encyclopedia of Contemporary Theatre.* Multiple vols.
- Ref. PN 2035 O9 1983 *Oxford Companion to Theatre.*
- Ref. PN 2220 B6 1984 *Oxford Companion to American Theatre.*

Ref. PN 2000 N76. *New York Times Theatre Critics' Reviews.* Multiple vols. Also free [online](http://theater.nytimes.com/pages/theater/reviews/index.html) (<http://theater.nytimes.com/pages/theater/reviews/index.html>) from 1905 to present.

Free Online Texts

The following web sites provide authoritative electronic texts of literary classics no longer protected by copyright. Although these texts should be authentic and unabridged, you might want to check with your professor before using them.

For a thorough listing of electronic text collections, see (<http://ipl.si.umich.edu/div/subject/browse/hum60.60.00/>) from the Internet Public Library.

[Project Gutenberg](http://www.gutenberg.org) (<http://www.gutenberg.org>)

[University of Virginia Electronic Text Center](#) This is the English language page. Texts in other languages are also provided.

[Bartleby.com](#) Reference, poetry, fiction, non-fiction

[Perseus Digital Library](#) Classic works in the humanities

Shakespeare

Internet Sites (Shakespeare)

Open Source Shakespeare (see <http://www.opensourceshakespeare.com/>).

British Library's Treasures in Full: Shakespeare in Quarto (see <http://www.bl.uk/treasures/shakespeare/homepage.html>).

Reference Books (Shakespeare)

The Monmouth University Library has over 70 reference books on Shakespeare, a few of which include:

- Ref. PR2976 .G739 2005** *The Greenwood Companion to Shakespeare: A Comprehensive Guide for Students.* Four Volumes.
- Ref. PR2965 .S44** *Shakespearean Criticism: Excerpts from the Criticism of William Shakespeare's Plays and Poetry, from the First Published Appraisals to Current Evaluations.* 100 volumes.
- Ref. PR 2987 W7** *The Folger Guide to Shakespeare.* Louis Wright and Virginia LaMar.
- Ref. Z 8811 C53 1986** *The Essential Shakespeare: An Annotated Bibliography of Major Modern Studies.*

Academic Journals (Shakespeare)

The following Shakespeare-related journals are available at the Research Database page of the MU Library (<http://library.monmouth.edu/researchdb/researchdb.php>):

- Shakespeare Studies
- Shakespeare Bulletin
- Shakespeare Quarterly
- Shakespeare Studies

E-Books (Shakespeare)

The Furness Shakespeare Library at the University of Pennsylvania:
(<http://dewey.library.upenn.edu/sceti/furness/index.cfm?nav=furness>)

The Complete Works of William Shakespeare:
<http://www-tech.mit.edu/Shakespeare/>

Shakespeare's First Folio Online:
(<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/cgi-bin/ptext?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A1999.03.0018>)

On the Web

[Internet Public Library: Literary Criticism](http://www.ipl.org/div/litcrit/) (<http://www.ipl.org/div/litcrit/>).

[Voice of the Shuttle](#) See [Literature \(in English\)](#) and [Literatures \(other than English\)](#). Be sure to browse the sub-topics on the right side of each page.

[Literary Resources on the Net](#) Topics covered include literary periods, nationality, gender, theory and more.

Open Source Shakespeare (<http://www.opensourceshakespeare.com/>).

Need more help?

- Access the Monmouth University Library Page at <http://library.monmouth.edu/>
- Access the Research Help Page at <http://library.monmouth.edu/help/help.php>
- Use our Ask-a-Librarian service at <http://library.monmouth.edu/help/ask.php>
- See the Library's hours at <http://library.monmouth.edu/about/about.php#hours>
- Call the reference desk at 732.571.3438.

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