

**Davidson College Library**  
**Research Guide for English 220: *Literary Analysis***

**Reference Sources****Dictionaries**

[\*Credo Reference\*](#). Includes [\*The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language\*](#) and [\*Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary\*](#).

[\*The Oxford English Dictionary \(OED\)\*](#). Ed. J.A. Simpson and E.S.C. Weiner. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. 20 vols. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1989.  
Reference R 423 O98m

[\*Webster's Third New International Dictionary of the English Language, Unabridged\*](#). Ed. Philip Babcock Gove. Springfield, MA: G&C Merriam, [1971].  
Reference R423 W38n 1971

**General Literature Guides**

*The Cambridge Guide to Literature in English*. Ian Ousby. Rev. ed. New York: Cambridge UP, 1993.  
Reference R 928 C178

*The Columbia Encyclopedia of Modern Drama*. Ed. Gabrielle Cody and Evert Sprinchorn. 2 vols. New York: Columbia UP, 2007.  
Reference R 809.2 C726

*The Columbia Guide to the Twentieth-Century American Short Story*. Ed. Blanche H. Gelfant. New York: Columbia UP, 2000.  
Reference R 813 C726

*The Companion to Southern Literature: Themes, Genres, Places, People, Movements, and Motifs*. Ed. Joseph M. Flora and Lucinda H. MacKethan. Baton Rouge, LA: Louisiana State UP, 2002.  
Reference R 810.9 C737

*Questions?*  
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*The Continuum Encyclopedia of British Literature*. Ed. Steven R. Serafin and Valerie Grosvenor Myer. New York: continuum, 2003.  
Reference R 820.3 C762

[Credo Reference](#)

A collection of online reference books, including a selection of [literature resources](#), such as *The Cambridge Guide to Literature in English* 3rd ed., *The Continuum Encyclopedia of American Literature*, and *The Continuum Encyclopedia of British Literature*.

*A Dictionary of Literary and Thematic Terms*. Edward Quinn. New York: Facts on File, 1999.  
Reference R 803 Q7d

*A Dictionary of Literary Devices*. Bernard Dupriez. Trans. Albert W. Halsall. Toronto: Univ. of Toronto Press, 1991.  
Reference R 803 D943g-T

*Dictionary of Literary Themes and Motifs*. Ed. Jean-Charles Seigneuret *et al.* 2 vols. New York: Greenwood, 1988.  
Reference R 803 D5541

*A Handbook to Literature*. William Harmon. 9<sup>th</sup> ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 2003.  
Reference R 803 H747h9

[The New Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics](#). Ed. Alex Preminger and T.V.F. Brogan. Princeton, NJ: Princeton UP, 1993.  
Reference R 809.1 P957 1993

*Oxford Companions*

- *The Oxford Companion to American Literature*. Ed. James D. Hart. 6<sup>th</sup> ed. New York: Oxford UP, 1995.  
Reference R 810.3 O898c6
- *The Oxford Companion to Canadian Literature*. Eds. Eugene Benson and William Toye. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. New York: Oxford UP, 1997.  
Reference R 810.3 O981 1997
- *The Oxford Companion to English Literature*. Ed. Margaret Drabble. 6<sup>th</sup> ed. New York: Oxford UP, 2000.  
Reference R 820.3 H34o6
- *The Oxford Companion to Irish Literature*. Ed. Robert Welch. New York: Clarendon Press, 1996.  
Reference R 820.9 O981
- *The Oxford Companion to New Zealand Literature*. Eds. Roger Robinson and Nelson Wattie. New York: Oxford UP, 1998.  
Reference R 820.3 O981
- *The Oxford Companion to Twentieth-Century Literature in English*. Ed. Jenny Stringer. New York: Oxford UP, 1996.  
Reference R 820.3 O98

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*The Oxford Encyclopedia of British Literature.* Ed. David Scott Kastan. 5 vols. New York: Oxford, 2006.  
Reference R 820.3 O982

*The Poet's Dictionary: A Handbook of Prosody and Poetic Devices.* William Packard. New York: Harper & Row, 1989.  
Reference R 803 P119p

*Twentieth-Century Literary Movements Dictionary: A Compendium to More than 500 Literary, Critical, and Theatrical movements.* Ed. Helene Anderson and Jay P. Pederson. Detroit, MI: Omnigraphics, 2000.  
Reference R 809.9 T971

### **Critical Theory**

*The Bedford Glossary of Critical and Literary Terms.* Ross Murfin and Supryia M. Ray. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2003.  
Reference R 801.95 M975b

*Contemporary Critical Theory: A Selective Bibliography.* Donald G. Marshall. New York: Modern Language Association, 1993.  
Reference R 016.8 M367c

*The Continuum Encyclopedia of Modern Criticism and Theory.* Ed. Julian Wolfreys. New York: Continuum, 2002.  
Reference R 801.95 C762

*Dictionary of Literary Terms and Literary Theory.* J.A. Cuddon. 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Oxford: Blackwell, 1998.  
Reference R 803 C964d4

*Dictionary of Narratology.* Gerald Prince. Rev. ed. Lincoln, NE: Univ. of Nebraska Press, 2003.  
Reference R 801.95 P995d 2003

*Encyclopedia of Contemporary Literary Theory: Approaches, Scholars, Terms.* Ed. Irene R. Makaryk. Toronto: Univ. of Toronto Press, 1993.  
Reference R 801 E56

*Encyclopedia of Feminist Theories.* Ed. Lorriane Code. New York: Routledge, 200.  
Reference R 305.42 E56

*Encyclopedia of Literary Critics and Criticism.* Ed. Chris Murray. New ed. 2 vols. London: Firtzroy Dearborn, 1999.

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Reference R 801.95 E56

*A Glossary of Contemporary Literary Theory*. Jeremy Hawthorne. 4<sup>th</sup> ed. London: Arnold, 2000.

Reference R 801.95 H399g4

[\*The Johns Hopkins Guide to Literary Theory and Criticism\*](#). Ed. Michael Grodon *et al.* 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins UP, 2005.

Reference R 801.95 J65 2005

*The Penguin Dictionary of Critical Theory*. David Macey. New York: Penguin, 2000.

Reference R 801.95 M142p

*Postmodern Fiction: A Bio-Bibliographical Guide*. Ed. Larry McCaffery. Westport, Ct: Greenwood, 1986.

Reference R 809.3 P858

*The Routledge Critical Dictionary of Feminism and PostFeminism*. Ed. Sarah Gamble. New York: Routledge, 2000.

Reference R 305.42 R869

### **Information About Specific Authors & Works**

*Note:* Search the Library Catalog for reference works about specific authors; try a subject keyword search for an author's name and limit your search by material type "reference resources."

[\*American National Biography\*](#). Ed. John A. Garraty and Mark C. Carnes. 24 vols. New York: Oxford UP, 1999-2002.

Reference R 920.073 A512

[\*Biography Reference Bank\*](#). H.W. Wilson, 2003-.

*Contemporary Novelists*. Ed. Neil Schlager and Josh Lauer. 7<sup>th</sup> ed. Detroit, MI: St. James Press, 2001.

Reference R 823.09 C7611 2001

*Critical Survey of Drama*. Ed. Carl Rollyson. 2<sup>nd</sup> rev ed. 8 vols. Pasadena, CA: Salem Press, 2003.

Reference R 809.2 C934

*Critical Survey of Poetry*. Ed. Philip Jason. 2<sup>nd</sup> rev. ed. 8 vols. Pasadena, CA: Salem Press, 2003.

Reference R 809.1 C934

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*Critical Survey of Short Fiction.* Ed. Charles E. May. 2<sup>nd</sup> rev. ed. 7 vols. Pasadena, CA: Salem Press, 2001.

Reference R 809.3 C934 2001

*Encyclopedia of American Poetry: The Twentieth Century.* Ed. Eric L. Haralson. Chicago, IL: Fitzroy Dearborn, 2001.

Reference R 928.1 E561

*Encyclopedia of Post-Colonial Literatures in English.* Ed. Eugene Benson and L.W. Conolly. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. 3 vols. New York: Routledge, 2005.

Reference R 820.9 E561 2005

*Encyclopedia of World Literature in the 20th Century.* Ed. Steven R. Serafin. 5 vols. Farmington Hills, MI: St. James Press, 1999.

Reference R 803 E562 1999

### [Literature Resource Center](#)

Contains full-text biographies, critical essays, journal articles, and excerpts of criticism and reviews about over 130,000 literary authors and their works; covers dramatists, essayists, novelists, poets, and other writers from all time periods.

Includes:

- *Contemporary Authors*
- *The Dictionary of Literary Biography*
- *Feminist Writers*
- *Scribner's American Writers*
- *Scribner's British Writers*

*Oxford Dictionary of National Biography.* Ed. H.C.G. Matthew and Brian Harrison. 60 vols. New York: Oxford UP, 2004.

Reference R 920 N2111

See also the first edition: *Dictionary of National Biography*, edited by Leslie Stephen and Sidney Lee (22 vols; 1885-1901; reprinted London: Oxford UP, 1963-1965), shelved in Reference at call number R 920 N211

*The Oxford Encyclopedia of British Literature.* Ed. David Scott Kastan. 5 vols. New York: Oxford, 2006.

Reference R 820.3 O982

*Postmodern Fiction: A Bio-Bibliographical Guide.* Ed. Larry McCaffery. Westport, CT: Greenwood, 1986.

Reference R 809.3 P858

*A Reader's Companion to the Short Story in English.* Ed. Erin Fallon *et al.* Westport, CT: Greenwood, 2001.

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Reference R 809.3 R286

[Reference Guide to Short Fiction](#). Ed. Thomas Riggs. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Detroit, MI: St. James Press, 1999.

[Reference Guide to World Literature](#). Ed. Sara Pendergast and Tom Pendergast. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. 2 vols. Detroit, MI: St. James Press, 2003.

Reference R 809 R332

## **Finding Books**

(Both literary and critical texts)

### [Library Catalog](#)

Includes information about books, government documents, and journals, magazines, and newspapers in the Library.

- To locate appropriate Library of Congress Subject Headings, start with a keyword search and then browse records.
- To locate works about a person, do a subject search for the person's name (last name first).
- To locate bibliographies on an author, literary works, or topic, do a keyword search and add the following: su bibliography.

Search Syntax:

- *Truncation*: use a dollar sign \$.
- *Phrase Searching*: use double quotation marks "".
- *Wildcard*: use a question mark ?.

### [WorldCat](#)

Indexes books, periodicals, and other materials held by libraries around the world. Search *WorldCat* to identify additional books on your topic and then order the books through [interlibrary loan](#).

Search Syntax:

- *Truncation*: use an asterisk \*.
- *Phrase Searching*: insert a "w" between the words in a phrase (for example, "cold w war").
- *Wildcard*: use a question mark ?.

## **Finding Articles**

### **Starting Points**

#### [Academic Search Premier](#)

(1975 to Present) Indexes popular and scholarly articles in a broad range of subject areas; also includes citations to book reviews and citations to articles in several national newspapers.

Search Syntax:

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- *Phrase Searching*: use double quotation marks “ ”.
- *Wildcard*: use a question mark ?.

### [OmniFile Full Text Mega](#)

(1982 to Present) Indexes articles from over 3,000 scholarly and popular periodicals in the humanities, social sciences, and sciences; also includes the full text of selected articles from over 1,650 of these periodicals.

Search Syntax:

- *Truncation*: unnecessary when using “All – Smart Search”; otherwise, use an asterisk \*.
- *Phrase Searching*: use double quotation marks “ ”.
- *Wildcard*: do not use with “All – Smart Search”; otherwise, use a question mark ?.

## Resources for English

### In Print:

*American Short Fiction Criticism and Scholarship, 1959-1977: A Checklist*. Joe Weixlmann. Chicago, IL: Swallow Press, 1982.

### *Moulton's Library of Literary Criticism*

- *Moulton's Library of Literary Criticism of English and American Authors through the Beginning of the Twentieth Century*. Rev. Martin Tucker. New York: Ungar, 1966. Reference R 820.9 M92L1
- *New Moulton's Library of Literary Criticism*. Ed. Harold Bloom. New York: Chelsea House, 1985-1990. Reference R 809 C5162
- *The Major Author's Edition of the New Moulton's Library of Literary Criticism*. Ed. Harold Bloom. New York: Chelsea House, 1985 -. Reference R 809 C5163
- *Twentieth-Century American Literature*. Ed. Harold Bloom. New York: Chelsea House, 1985-1988. Reference R 809 C5166

### *Poetry Explication*

- *Poetry Explication: A Checklist of Interpretation Since 1925 of British and American Poems Past and Present*. Joseph Marshall Kuntz. Rev. ed. Boston: G.K. Hall, 1980. Reference R 016.82 K96p3
- *Guide to British Poetry Explication*. Nancy C. Martinez and Joseph G.R. Martinez. 4 vols. Boston: G.K. Hall, 1991-1995. Reference R 016.82 M385g

*Short Fiction Criticism: A Checklist of Interpretation Since 1925 of Stories and Novelettes (American, British, Continental) 1800-1958*. Jarvis Thurston *et al.* Denver, CO: Alan Swallow, 1960.

Reference R 016.8 T54s

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*Twentieth-Century Short Story Explication*. Comp. Warren S. Walker. Hamden, CT: Shoestring Press, 1977 -.  
Reference R016.8 W186t  
Includes supplements.

**Online:**

[Annual Bibliography of English Language & Literature \(ABELL\)](#)

Indexes journal articles and books published from 1920 to present; also includes citations to book reviews. Covers all literatures in English as well as the English language, bibliography, textual studies, and the history of publishing. *ABELL* is a particularly good source of information about books published in the U.K. Many of these works do not appear in the *MLAIB*.

[Literature Resource Center](#)

Contains full-text biographies, critical essays, journal articles, and excerpts of criticism and reviews about over 130,000 literary authors and their works; covers dramatists, essayists, novelists, poets, and other writers from all time periods.

Includes nearly all of the content in the following series:

- *Classical and Medieval Literature Criticism*
- *Literature Criticism from 1400-1800*
- *Shakespearean Criticism: Excerpts from the Criticism of William Shakespeare's Plays and Poetry, from the First Published Appraisals to Current Evaluations*  
*Note:* the Library has older print volumes of this series in Reference at call number R 822.33 DS5275
- *Nineteenth-Century Literary Criticism*  
*Note:* the Library has older print volumes of this series in Reference at call number R 809.03 N714.
- *Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism*  
*Note:* the Library has older print volumes of this series in Reference at call number R 809.04 T971.
- *Contemporary Literary Criticism*  
*Note:* the Library has older print volumes of this series in Reference at call number R 809.04 C761.
- *Drama Criticism*
- *Poetry Criticism*
- *Short Story Criticism*  
*Note:* the Library has older print volumes of this series in Reference at call number R 809 S559

[MLA International Bibliography](#)

(1926 to Present) Indexes journal articles, books, and doctoral dissertations in the fields of English, American, European, Asian, African, and Latin American linguistics, modern languages and literatures, film studies, and folklore. For more information, see the [MLAIB Search Planner](#).  
Search Syntax:

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- *Truncation*: use an asterisk \*.
- *Phrase Searching*: use double quotation marks “ ”.
- *Wildcard*: use a question mark ?.

## Other Resources

### [America: History & Life and Historical Abstracts](#)

(Time period covered: 1450 to present [world history]; prehistory to present [U.S. and Canadian history]. Publication coverage: 1954 to present). Indexes journal articles, book chapters, doctoral dissertations, and book reviews. (Each database can also be searched separately.)

Search Syntax:

- *Truncation*: use an asterisk \*.
- *Phrase Searching*: use double quotation marks “ ”.
- *Wildcard*: use a question mark ?.

### [Essay & General Literature Index](#)

(1900 to Present) Indexes chapters and essays in edited collections.

Search Syntax:

- *Truncation*: unnecessary when using “All – Smart Search”; otherwise, use an asterisk \*.
- *Phrase Searching*: use double quotation marks “ ”.
- *Wildcard*: do not use with “All – Smart Search”; otherwise, use a question mark ?.

### [Humanities Abstracts](#)

(1907 to present) Indexes articles in over 500 English-language journals in the fields of archaeology, art, classics, communication, film, folklore, history, languages and literatures, music, philosophy, religion, and theatre. Also includes citations for book, theatre, and film reviews as well as interviews, obituaries, and some original creative works. Includes the full text of selected articles from 1995 to the present.

#### Search Syntax

*Truncation*: unnecessary when using “All – Smart Search”; otherwise, use an asterisk \*.

*Phrase Searching*: use double quotation marks “ ”.

*Wildcard*: do not use with “All – Smart Search”; otherwise, use a question mark ?.

### [JSTOR](#)

Includes pdf copies of scholarly articles from a core collection of journals; also includes book reviews. *Note*: *JSTOR* does not contain articles from the most recent 3-5 years.

#### Search Syntax

*Truncation*: use a plus sign +.

*Phrase Searching*: automatic.

### [Periodicals Index Online](#)

(c. 1665-1995) Indexes journal and magazine articles as well as book reviews in a broad array of humanities, social sciences, and science subjects.

#### Search Syntax

*Truncation*: use an asterisk \*.

*Phrase Searching*: automatic.

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### [Project Muse](#)

Includes pdf and HTML copies of journal articles published by university and scholarly presses.

#### **Search Syntax**

*Truncation:* use an asterisk \*.

*Phrase Searching:* use double quotation marks “”.

### *Women Studies Abstracts*

Reference Index Area R 050 W872

(1972 to Present) Indexes popular articles, scholarly articles, and books on all aspects of women's studies, including history, education, gender, literature, religion, and art.

## **Tips & Further Help**

For additional assistance in the research process, you may wish to see one of the following guides:

- [How to Narrow or Broaden Your Search](#)
- [How to Identify a Scholarly Article](#)
- [How to Search the Web: Tools & Tips](#)
- [How to Evaluate Web Resources](#)
- [Research Planner \(pdf document\)](#)
- [Research Log \(pdf document\)](#)
- [MLA International Bibliography Search Planner \(pdf document\)](#)

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