



Miguel de Cervantes

LITERATURE AND LITERARY CRITICISM

A Library Research Guide

Wilson Library, Bethany University, Reference Services Guide

Use this guide as a starting point in your search for information in the field of literature and literary criticism. Ask at the reference desk for help in finding or using any of the resources listed below.

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Encyclopedias and Dictionaries

There are many specialized encyclopedia and dictionaries of literary criticism which provide information covering genres, time periods, persons and individual literary works. The following are a few of those titles:

- ◆ Granger's Index to poetry, Ref PN 1021vG7 1973
- ◆ Magill, F. Critical survey of short fiction, Ref PN 3451 C7
- ◆ Cassell's encyclopedia of world literature, Ref PN 41 C3
- ◆ Shipley, J. Dictionary of world literary terms, forms, technique, criticism. Ref PN41 S5
- ◆ Rudd, J. Encyclopedia of medieval literature. Ref PN 669 R88 2005
- ◆ Cook, J. Encyclopedia of Renaissance literature. Ref PN 721 C66 2005

For example: *Ben Jonson*

Use the following sources to find information about Jonson or his works.

- British Writer's, v. 1 Ref PR 85 B688 page 335-
- Critical perspective, v. 3 Ref PR 85 C76 page 1473-
- Library of literary criticism, Ref PR 83 M73 page 745-768
- Cambridge History of English Literature, Ref PR 83 C22 pages too numerous to mention.

Another example: *F. Scott Fitzgerald*

- ✚ American Writers, v. 1 Ref PS 129 A55 pages 77-100
- ✚ Modern American Literature, v. 1, Ref PS 221 C8 pages 397-404
- ✚ American Short Story, Ref PS 374 S5 F33, pages 164-165
- ✚ F.Scott Fitzgerald A to Z, Ref PS 3511 I9 Z459, whole book

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Use the online catalog to find books both by and about an author by performing a subject and/or keyword search. Books provide the most in-depth information about any topic.

Finding journal articles: EBSCOhost, the library's online database, can be accessed from the Wilson Library Web page. The Humanities Index will provide further direction for finding articles in the library that are not in the online database.

World Wide Web

Internet Public Library: www.ipl.org

Enotes: www.enotes.com

Librarians Index to the Internet: www.iii.org

ERIC: www.eric.ed.gov

Search strategy for the web.

Type your author's name in quotes, eg. "ben jonson"

Type the word criticism in the same search box.

This will limit the number of hits you get to those pages where both terms are mentioned.



Miscellaneous

Gale, R. Plots and characters in the works of Mark Twain. Ref PS 1431 G3

Robertson, G. World of Toni Morrison. Ref PS 3563 O8749 Z844 2003

Le Comte, Ed. A Milton dictionary. Ref PR 3580 L4

Paddock, L. The Brontes A to Z. Ref PR 4168 P28 2003

Lindsay, M. The Burns encyclopedia. Ref PR 4330 L5

Philip, A. A Dickens dictionary. Ref PR 4580 P5

Foster, R. Complete guide to Middle-earth. Ref PR 6039 O32 Z49

Et cetera, et cetera, et cetera.....

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