



Resources for ENGL 400: Senior Tutorial
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BACKGROUND SOURCES: FINDING INFORMATION IN ENCYCLOPEDIAS, HANDBOOKS, ETC.

Literature Resource Center (published by Gale Cengage Learning)

Literary Reference Center Plus (published by EBSCO)

These two databases provide biographical, bibliographical, and critical content on literary figures and their works from all time periods, countries, and genres. Information comes from reference works, books, and literary journals. Included are biographies, plot summaries, journal articles, reviews, and more.

OBIS is the Oberlin College Library's online catalog; it lists most library materials. Online borrowing is available through the **OhioLINK Library Catalog**, which combines the holdings of 120 libraries at Ohio colleges and universities, and through **SearchOhio**, which does the same for 28 Ohio public library systems. All three catalogs are searchable by **Author** or **Title** for a specific author or work, or by **Subject Heading** or **Keyword** for works about a topic, person, place, etc.

Search for the names of specific authors and for topics as a subject and browse entries, e.g.,

Joyce, James, 1882-1941

Gawain (Legendary character)

Nabokov, Vladimir Vladimirovich, 1899-1977

Queer theory

Woolf, Virginia, 1882-1941

September 11 Terrorist Attacks, 2001, in literature

Beauty and the beast (Tale)

Speculative fiction

Filipinos -- Employment -- Foreign countries

ARGUMENT SOURCES: FINDING BOOKS AND OTHER LIBRARY MATERIALS

OBIS is useful for finding argument sources, too! Try **KEYWORD** and **ADVANCED** searches to find writings on more specific topics by searching book titles, tables of contents, words in the subject headings, summaries, etc.

speculative fiction

jane austen and (humor or humour or wit or witty or comed* or comic* or parod* or satir* or... etc.)

ARGUMENT SOURCES: FINDING ARTICLES IN SCHOLARLY JOURNALS AND OTHER SOURCES THROUGH DATABASES

Connect from Databases tab in the Library home page search box, or use the "Quick Links" drop-down menu.

☆ *MLA International Bibliography*

Indexes books and articles from 4,400+ journals in world literature, modern languages, and folklore

Humanities International Complete

Indexes books and journal articles in all humanities disciplines, with particular focus on literary, scholarly and creative thought

JSTOR

Digital library of 2,400+ core academic journals (~335 in language and literature), starting with the first volume published, along with thousands of monographs and other materials, largely in social sciences and humanities disciplines; few recent issues are available (most titles have a 3-5 year "moving wall"); every word of every article is searchable, which gives it a certain edge over *MLA International Bibliography*, and is also a feature that has both an upside and a downside!

☞ *To determine if the library has a particular journal, Use "360 Link to Full Text" or "Find It!" where available in research databases, or search **Journal Finder** from Library home page or the Quick Links pull-down menu*

Other Recommended Research Databases

Depending on your topic, the databases listed below may also prove useful. If you need assistance finding and using these or other library resources, ask for help at the Research Desk.

Academic Search Complete (multidisciplinary)
America: History & Life (U.S. history & culture)
Anthropology Plus
Arts & Humanities Database
Bibliography of Asian Studies
Gender Studies Database

Historical Abstracts (world history & culture)
International Medieval Bibliography
LGBT Life
PsycINFO (psychology)
Science Fiction and Fantasy Research Database
SocINDEX (sociology)

CASTING A [VERY] BROAD NET WITH SEARCH ENGINES

SUMMON – first (default) tab on library home page search box

- searches across the spectrum of library content: books, scholarly articles, newspapers, data, audio, video, images, government documents, and more; searches many, *but not all*, library resources
- draws from OBIS, many full text and article indexing databases, and (if you select the box) digital repositories at other colleges, universities, research centers, and open-access archives
- if links don't lead to full text, be persistent or ask for help; we probably *do* have access
- when *not* to use Summon:
 - OBIS and OhioLINK are generally better for finding books
 - subject specific databases are generally better for complex or disciplinary searches

GOOGLE SCHOLAR – <http://scholar.google.com>

- Search Google Scholar (instead of Google) for the “good” stuff: books, articles from scholarly publishers, and materials in college and university repositories
- Provides cited references (better for books than articles)
- Set your GS preferences to get Oberlin's “Find Full Text” links and direct export to RefWorks

THEORY SOURCES

The Johns Hopkins Guide to Literary Theory & Criticism. Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press. e-book, updated periodically

The Encyclopedia of Literary and Cultural Theory. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2011. Main Reference PN81 .E435 2011 (3 vols.)

A Glossary of Literary Terms. 11th ed. Stamford, CT: Cengage Learning, 2015. Main Reference PN41 .A184 2015

A New Handbook of Literary Terms. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2007. e-book

A Dictionary of Literary Terms and Literary Theory. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, 2013. Main Reference PN41 .C83 2013

Encyclopedia of Literary Critics and Criticism. London: Fitzroy Dearborn, 1999. Main Reference PN45 .C74 1999

METHOD SOURCES, RESOURCES ON WRITING AND RESEARCH

The Wiley Guide to Writing Essays about Literature. Malden, MA: Wiley Blackwell, 2014. e-book

Writing about Literature. 13th ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 2012.
Main Library PE1479.C7 R59 2012

A Contemporary Guide to Literary Terms: with Strategies for Writing Essays about Literature. 3rd ed.
Boston, MA: Wadsworth Cengage Learning, 2012.
Main Library PN44.5 .B332 2012

A Short Guide to Writing about Literature. 5th ed. Boston Little, Brown, 1985.
Main Library PE1479 .C7B3 1985 [newer eds. available through OhioLINK]

"They say / I say": The Moves that Matter in Academic Writing. 3rd ed. New York: W.W. Norton &
Company, 2014.
Main Reference PE1431 .G73 2014

A Research Guide for Undergraduate Students: English and American Literature. 6th ed. New York:
Modern Language Association of America, 2006.
Main Reference PR56 .B34 2006

Encyclopedia of Themes in Literature. New York: Facts On File, 2011.
Main Reference PR19 .E53 2011 (3 vols.)

Dictionary of Literary Themes and Motifs. New York: Greenwood Press, 1988.
Main Reference PN43.D48 1988 (2 vols.)

How to Prepare an Annotated Bibliography. Maintained by the Olin & Uris Libraries, Cornell University.
<http://guides.library.cornell.edu/annotatedbibliography>

DOCUMENTING YOUR SOURCES

MLA Handbook. 8th ed. New York: Modern Language Association of America, 2016.
Main Reference LB2369 .G53 2016

Purdue Online Writing Lab (aka the OWL). Maintained by Perdue University.
<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>

See the Research and Citation section for examples of how to cite resources using APA, MLA, and Chicago citation styles.

Consider using a citation management tool such as *RefWorks* to help you:

- track sources consulted
- organize citations, notes, and documents
- automatically format bibliographies and lists of works cited in just about any style you can think of
- for info, choose "For Students" (under "Services" on library home page), then "Citation Help"

HOW TO GET MATERIALS NOT AVAILABLE AT OBERLIN

OhioLINK/SearchOhio

- how it works: more than 300 Ohio libraries lend materials (primarily books) to each other
 📖 does not include delivery of journal articles – see section below on ILL
- to request: do-it-yourself searching and online requesting (barcode is the number on back of OCID)

Interlibrary Loan (ILL or ILLiad)

- use for: articles in journals not available at Oberlin, books not available from OhioLINK
- how it works: libraries lend materials to each other; for journal articles they usually send pdf scans
- to request: select "ILLiad/Interlibrary Loan" from the Quick Links menu on the Library's home page; set up an account; enter and track ILL requests online

HOW TO GET RESEARCH HELP AT THE LIBRARY

Drop-in help at the Research Desk. Just stop by and tell us what you need

Monday–Thursday: 10am–noon, 1–5pm, & 7pm–midnight

Friday: 10am–noon & 1–5pm

Weekend: Sat.: 2–4 pm, Sunday: 1–5pm & 7 pm–midnight

Research appointment. Sign up online from the library home page

See ***Research Help*** on the library’s home page for other ways to get help

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BEAM/BEAT Framework for Thinking About Sources

Examples from Literature

Kind of Source	Explanation	Example <i>How are we to regard Jane's marriage to Rochester--liberation or loss? (Jane Eyre, by Charlotte Brontë)</i>
B Background sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present shared information and established facts • Provide context or background • Intended to be informative • Information is uncontested • Examples: encyclopedias, handbooks, companions, readers, biographies, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encyclopedia article on evangelism • Biography of the Brontës • Books or articles on the history/culture of a literary period <p>[Note: If you are analyzing bias or controversy in these sources, they become “exhibit” sources rather than “background”]</p>
E Exhibit sources (particulars from exhibits become evidence)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documents, data, visual images, field observations, lab findings, statistical arrays, natural phenomena, or other artifacts/objects that you analyze, interpret, or explicate • Sources on which you have exercised your own critical thinking to make an argument 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The text of <u>Jane Eyre</u> (exhibit) • Cultural documents, images, and reviews contemporary to the time of the text being studied (exhibit) • Quotations, paraphrases, or other textual citations from <u>Jane Eyre</u> or contemporary materials (evidence)
A Argument sources (typically peer-reviewed books and articles by other scholars)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The conversation of critical views and relevant scholarship that you are joining • Affirm, refute, critique, refine, extend 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Views of other scholars who have written about Jane's marriage to Rochester • Argument sources create the critical conversation that the researcher is joining • Typically, you identify a view that you are “pushing against” in some way • Your goal is to add something new or challenging to the conversation
M / T Method / Theory sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • References to the theoretical or methodological lens being used • These authors have usually not addressed your specific research question 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • References to theorists—Michel Foucault, Edward Said, Judith Butler, etc. • Specific references to theory or method—feminism, performance theory, new historicism, reader-response theory, deconstruction, etc.

Adapted from Bizup, Joseph. “BEAM: A Rhetorical Vocabulary for Teaching Research-Based Writing.” *Rhetoric Review*, 2008 27(1):72-86