CVCC LIBRARY RESEARCH GUIDE

Literary Research – Literature Databases

Suggested Databases:
The CVCC Library provides students access to a variety of excellent research tools available online. These databases provide journal and magazine articles, information published in reference books, and more. Much of the material provided is full-text. The following databases are good sources for literary research and author information.

- **Literature Resource Center** - Biographies, bibliographies, and critical analyses of more than 120,000 authors from every age and literary discipline.
- **MLA International Bibliography** - Provides bibliographic citations to journal articles, books, and dissertations in academic disciplines such as: language, literature, folklore, linguistics, literary theory and criticism, and the dramatic arts.
- **Scribner Writers Online** - Literary research on authors; includes volumes from the Scribner sets American Writers, British Writers, European Writers, and World and Genre Writers.
- **Twayne's Authors Online** - Literary research on authors and literary works; includes volumes from the Twayne sets U.S. Authors, World Authors, English Authors, Masterworks Series, and Short Fiction Series.
- **Major 21st Century Writers** - Source of biographical, critical, and bibliographical information on influential authors at the turn of the 21st century.
- **Project Muse** - Covers the fields of literature and criticism, history, visual and performing arts, and others.
- **JSTOR** - Database of scholarly, full-text articles in the Arts & Sciences and the Life Sciences.
- **American Poetry** - Gathers works of influential American poets, from the Colonial period to the early twentieth century.
- **English Poetry** - Contains poems in English from Anglo-Saxon times to the end of the nineteenth century by writers from the British Isles.
- **English Verse Drama** - Contains works by named and anonymous works, from Shrewsbury Fragments of the late thirteenth century through the Elizabethan and Jacobean period to the end of the nineteenth century.
To search any of these databases:
2. On the blue banner at the top of the screen, click Student Support.
3. On the menu on the left-hand side, click Library.
4. On the menu on the left-hand side, click Databases by Subject.
5. Click the subject category Literature.
6. Choose the database you wish to use.
7. When accessing databases off campus, you will be asked for a Username and Password (same as for Blackboard and e-mail).

Searching Tips:
- Citations – Many databases help generate suggested citations for a bibliography or works cited page. (Remember -- they may need to be adjusted according to your instructor’s directions!)
- Use multiple search boxes (often found in Advanced Search) when researching a topic that involves two or more concepts.
- If you locate an article citation but full text is not included, use the LincIT feature to see if the article is available in another database the library subscribes to.

Interlibrary Loan:
When searching electronic databases, if you locate a citation that looks promising but full text is not included, remember that the Library offers Interlibrary Loan Service. The Library will place an electronic request to another library to obtain a copy. To request a book or article through interlibrary loan:
2. On the blue banner at the top of the screen, click Student Support.
3. On the menu on the left-hand side, click Library.
4. On the menu on the left-hand side, click Forms.
5. Click INTERLIBRARY LOAN REQUEST.
6. Fill out the form and submit it electronically.

For additional assistance, contact the CVCC Library at (434) 832-7750 or email library@centralvirginia.edu.