

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.
- **African-American Poetry** - A collection of over 2,500 poems, based on William French's bibliography, *Afro-American Poetry and Drama 1760-1975*.
- **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:

1. Go to the [CVCC Home Page](http://www.centralvirginia.edu) at www.centralvirginia.edu .
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:

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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 .***