A Guide to Resources in Literary Criticism

Factual and Background Information - Use reference books like encyclopedias, handbooks, and dictionaries.

American Authors: 1600-1900
REF PS 21 .K8

American Writers
REF PS 129 .A55

Black Literature Criticism
REF PS 153 .N5 B556 1992

Bloomsbury Guide to Women’s Literature
REF PN 471 .B57 1992

British Authors before 1800
REF PR 105 .K9

British Writers
REF PR 85 .B688

Contemporary Women Poets
REF PS 151 .C67 1998

Critical Survey of Long Fiction
REF PN 3451 .C75 2000

Critical Survey of Poetry
REF PN 1111 .C7

Critical Survey of Short Fiction
REF PN 3451 .M2

European Authors
REF PN 451 .K8

Great Women Writers
REF PN 471 .G74 1994

Greenwood Encyc. of Multiethnic American Literature
REF PS 153 .M56 G74 2005

Moulton’s Library of Literary Criticism
REF PR 83 .M69

New Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics
REF PN 1042 .P75

The Oxford Companion to Twentieth Century Poetry
REF PR 601 .O9 1994

Poets: American and British
REF PS 303 .P64 1998

Short Story Criticism
REF PN 3373 .S386

Twentieth Century Authors
REF PN 771 .K86

Twentieth Century Literary Criticism
REF PN 771 .G27

World Authors: 1950-1975 (various volumes)
REF PN 451 .W3

World Literature Criticism: 1500 to Present
REF PN 523 .W67 1992
Books and Articles

Use the online library catalog, for finding books in the Library.

The following online library databases can be used to find literary resources, including magazine and journal articles.

- LION: Literature Online
- Literature Resource Center
- Academic Search Premier

You can find them at: www.hagerstowncc.edu/library/FIND_database.htm

The Essay and General Literature Index: lists essays that have been published in books. REF AI 3.E752 1998

World Wide Web

Methods to find useful Web sites:

1) Use a directory site which lists and organizes Web sites by subject.
   Examples: Internet Public Library at http://www.ipl.org or Librarians’ Internet Index at http://lii.org

2) Use sites with search tools allow you to search for individual words or phrases of your choice. Be sure to read the help screens for specific instructions.
   Example: www.yahoo.com or www.google.com

3) Some sites chosen by faculty and library staff can be found on the Brish Library’s web site at: www.hagerstowncc.edu/library. Rest your mouse on Find, select the Useful Web Sites link in the menu and then choose Literature from the subject list at the top of the page.

Evaluate what you find

Some criteria to evaluate information found on Web sites:

- Accuracy – Is the source and author identified or cited?
- Authority – Does the author, publisher or source seem credible or reputable?
- Objectivity – Can you detect a bias? Does it only advocate one side of the issue?
- Currency – Is the content up-to-date? Are publication dates available?
- Coverage – Is the topic covered in depth? Is it missing an important element of the issue?

Please be sure to check with a Librarian if you have questions or would like additional assistance.