

## (2) Developing information research strategies

**Q: What information resources will allow me to find the information I need?**

**A1: To find out basic or general information about a subject / authors  
→ consult**

- subject dictionaries or encyclopaedias (online or in the Library)
- biographical reference works (online or in the Library)
- subject handbooks, introductions or other surveys (online or in the Library)

### Literature, authors etc.: e.g.

Alexander, Christine and Margaret Smith. Eds. *The Oxford Companion to the Brontës*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2006. BL-VII-2=Brontë B-23

Baldick, Chris. *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Literary Terms*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. New York : Oxford University Press , 2004. L-I-1=51/Pb.-Ausg.2004

Benstock, Shari, Suzanne Ferriss and Susanne Woods. *A Handbook of Literary Feminisms*. New York : Oxford University Press, 2002. L-I-1=98

*Digital Library of Canada : Literature* (DB Service, www)

Guerin, Wilfred L. *A Handbook of Critical Approaches to Literature*. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. New York: Oxford University Press, 2005. L-I-1=73/5.Aufl.

Head, Dominic. Ed. *Cambridge Guide to Literature in English*. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006. HB: II-1420815/Ex.b [Og1c]; FB Anglistik: ordered from bookseller

Hawkins-Dady, Mark. Ed. *International Dictionary of Theatre*. 2 vols. Chicago, Ill.: St. James Press, 1992-1994.

Hogan, Robert. Ed. *Dictionary of Irish Literature*. 2 vols. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. London: Aldwych Press, 1996 . BL-I-2-4=B-21/2.Aufl./1-2

Kastan, David Scott. Ed. *The Oxford Encyclopedia of British Literature*. 6 vols. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2006. BL-I-1=B-118/1-6

Lennard, John and Mary Luckhurst. *The Drama Handbook. A Guide to Reading Plays*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002. L-I-4=87

*Oxford Reference Online* (subject Literature; includes various "Oxford Companions", DB Service)



The screenshot shows the Oxford Reference Online Premium website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for HOME, ADVANCED SEARCH, SUBJECTS & BOOKS, TIMELINES, BROWSE, LINKS, LOG OUT, and HELP. Below this, the page is titled 'Literature'. There is a 'Quick search' section with a search box and buttons for 'GO' and 'HELP'. Below the search box, there are radio buttons for 'Search this subject' and 'Search whole database'. To the right of the search section is an image of an open book. Below the search section, there are links for 'Browse this subject' and 'Links for this subject'. Further down, there is a 'Search within a book' section with a list of books, including 'The Concise Oxford Companion to African American Literature', 'The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Literary Terms', 'The Concise Oxford Companion to American Literature', 'The Oxford Guide to Literature in English Translation', 'The Oxford Companion to American Literature', 'The New Oxford Companion to Literature in French', 'The Oxford Encyclopedia of American Literature', 'The Oxford Companion to New Zealand Literature', 'The Oxford Companion to Australian Literature', 'The Oxford Companion to Women's Writing in the United States', 'The Oxford Companion to Canadian Literature', 'The Oxford Encyclopedia of British Literature', 'The Oxford Companion to Chaucer', 'The Oxford Encyclopedia of Children's Literature', and 'The Concise Oxford Companion to Classical Literature', 'The Oxford Dictionary of Phrase and Fable'.

## **Cultural Studies, film studies etc: e.g.**

Barker, Chris. *The Sage Dictionary of Cultural Studies*. London: Sage , 2004. R-III-1=51

Bennett, Peter. *Film studies : the essential resource* / Peter Bennett, Andrew Hickman and Peter Wall . - 1. publ. . - London [u.a.] : Routledge , 2007 . - XVII, 428 S. . - 978-0-415-36567-3 (hbk.) : £65.00. - (The essentials series)

Jackson, Russell. Ed. *The Cambridge Companion to Shakespeare on Film*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007. BL-IV-3-9=134

Lacey, Nick : *Introduction to film*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2006. R-I-2=39

Nünning, Ansgar and Vera Nünning. *Einführung in die Kulturwissenschaften. Theoretische Grundlagen - Ansätze - Perspektiven*. Stuttgart: Metzler , 2008. R-III-1=57

## **Biographical reference works, biographies etc: e.g.**

Garraty, John Arthur. Ed. *American National Biography*. 24 vols. New York: Oxford University Press, 1999. AR-III-4-1=40/1-24

*Biography Resource Center* (DB Service)

*Contemporary Writers in the UK* (bio-bibliographical, DB Service, www)

*Irish Writers Online* (bio-bibliographical, DB Service, www)

*Literature Resource Center* ( includes Contemporary Authors Online, Contemporary Literary Criticism Select and Dictionary of Literary Biography Online, DB Service)

*The Literary Encyclopedia* (DB Service, first 600 words can be read by non-members; for full access: Membership costs \$19.95 for a full year (circa £10.00 or €14) or \$9.95 for a month and helps us to build this valuable resource.)

*Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* (DB Service)

*Welsh Writers Online* (DB Service, www)

*Women Writers* (bio-bibliographical, European and North-American women writers until ca. 1900, DB Service, www)

- **Find books via shelfmarks on the library shelves**
- **Search the online catalogue (Schlagwortsuche/subject terms)**
- **Consult your professor**
- **Do bibliographic research**
- **Find information resources in "Datenbankservice" (e.g.. Handbook of Pragmatics Online, Oxford Reference Online)**

## **A2: To find information about specific aspects of a topic**

- **consult**
  - specialised secondary literature

## **A3: To find out about specialised literature or to answer the question what has been written about the topic**

- **consult**
  - list of references in books or articles on the topic

- subject or interdisciplinary bibliographies: some of which you may need to consult in book forms; others are available electronically (MLA, ABELL, ...)

### → Consult bibliographies of bibliographies: e.g.

Eager, Alan Robert . *A Guide to Irish Bibliographical Material. A bibliography of Irish Bibliographies and Sources of Information.* 2<sup>nd</sup> rev. and enl. ed. London: Library Association, 1980. A-V-3=60

*Index to British Literary Bibliography.* Oxford: Clarendon Press. 1.1969 - 9.1999 (e.g.: rev. edition of volume 1: Howard-Hill, Trevor H. Ed. *Bibliography of British Literary Bibliographies.* 2<sup>nd</sup>, rev. and enl. ed. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1987. A-V-3=34/1/2.Aufl.)

### → Consult printed bibliographies, research guides etc.: e.g.

*The Cambridge Bibliography of English literature.* (4 vols., last volume to have appeared in print: 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of volume 4, Shattock, Joanne. Ed. *The Cambridge Bibliography of English Literature. Vol. 4. 1800 - 1900.* 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999. A-V-3=1/3.Aufl./4; earlier editions of all volumes available under A-V-3=1/... on library shelf)

Coleman and Gary R. Tyler. *Drama Criticism. A Checklist of Interpretation since 1940 of English and American Plays.* Denver: Swallow, 1966. A-V-3=46/1

Courtney, Angela. *Literary Research and the Era of American Nationalism and Romanticism : Strategies and Sources.* Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Press, 2008. (Literary Research, 2) Z-II=Literary R./2

Davis, Gwenn and Beverly A. Joyce. *Drama by women to 1900 : a Bibliography of American and British Writers.* London: Mansell, 1992. (Bibliographies of Writings by American and British Women to 1900, 3) A-V-3=78/3

Davis, Gwenn and Beverly A. Joyce. *Short Fiction by Women to 1900 : a Bibliography of American and British Writers.* London: Mansell, 1999. (Bibliographies of Writings by American and British Women to 1900, 4) A-V-3=78/4

*Guide to the Gothic : an annotated Bibliography of Criticism.* Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Press, 1984 - (FB Anglistik Volumes II, III 1-2 (A-V-3=77/2; A-V-3=77(3/1-2))

Irish literature: annual IASIL bibliography in *Irish University Review : a Journal of Irish Studies.* Z-I=Irish UniversityRev./...

Keeran, Peggy, and Jennifer Bowers. *Literary Research and the British Romantic Era. Strategies and Sources.* Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Press, 2005. (Literary Research ; 1) Z-II=Literary R./1

Kuntz, Joseph M. *Poetry Explication. A Checklist of Interpretation since 1925 of British and American Poems Past and Present.* Rev. ed. Denver: Swallow, 1962. A-V-3=43/Ex.a

*Twentieth-Century Short Story Explication. With Checklists of Books and Journals Used.* North Haven, Conn.: Shoe String Press, 1977. (With supplements) A-V-3=36/...

### → Search for bibliographic citations in bibliographic databases:

#### in more than one bibliographic database:

- **via METALIB**  
" MetaLib allows you to search several electronic resources (catalogues, databases, e-journals) simultaneously, to set up search sets and to manage your search results. "
- **via a database provider such as CSA or EBSCO** (if more than one database are available from one provider)



**via "Datenbankservice" or from the English and American Studies Library Resources Page: (Selection)**

1. **ABELL (Annual Bibliography of English Language and Literature; auch via LION=Literature Online)**

"ABELL wird herausgegeben von der MHRA (Modern Humanities Research Association) und beinhaltet bibliographische Zitate von Monographien, Zeitschriftenartikeln, kommentierten Ausgaben von literarischen Werken, Buchbesprechungen, Aufsatzsammlungen und Dissertationen aus der ganzen Welt. Die Abdeckung gerade des Zeitraums zwischen 1920 und 1955 ist bis dato unerreicht.

Die Datenbank umfaßt:

Englische Sprache (Syntax, Phonologie, Lexikologie, Semantik, Stilistik und Dialektologie)  
Englische Literatur (Poesie, Prosa, Fiktion, Biographie, Reiseberichte, Literaturtheorie und Studien über einzelne Autoren)

Bibliographie (Untersuchungen von Manuskripten, Texten und die Geschichte der Publikationen)

Kultur der englischsprachigen Welt (Brauchtum, Religion, Lieder, Film, Tanz, etc.)  
Berichtszeitraum: 1920-

▪ **Anglistik (OLC-SSG)**

"Die Datenbank OLC-SSG Anglistik ist ein fachbezogener Auszug aus der Swets-Datenbank Online Contents, der laufend durch ausgewählte Zeitschriftentitel der zuständigen SSG-Bibliothek in Göttingen ergänzt wird.

Zurzeit werden 432 Zeitschriftentitel retrospektiv bis zum Erscheinungsjahr 1993 ausgewertet. Damit enthält die Datenbank derzeit ca. 183.114 Aufsätze und Rezensionen aus dem Fachgebiet Anglistik und Amerikanistik."

▪ **Annotierte Bibliographie zur Literaturtheorie**

Die Annotierte Bibliographie zur Literaturtheorie ist eine Datenbank, in der Titel zur aktuellen Literaturtheorie erfasst werden. Literaturtheoretisch relevante Beiträge zu Bezugstheorien, Interpretationstheorien und methodischen Ansätzen ab 1900 bis zur Gegenwart sollen möglichst vollständig aufgenommen werden. Berücksichtigt werden alle gängigen Publikationsformen. Derzeit liegt der Schwerpunkt auf deutsch- und englischsprachigen Veröffentlichungen. Momentan finden Sie überwiegend Titel aus dem Zeitraum von 1970 bis 2006.

Die Datenbank befindet sich im Aufbau. Sie geht mit über 1000 Titeleinträgen online und wird kontinuierlich erweitert. Langfristig sollen über die Datenbank auch der Zugriff auf Volltext-Dokumente zur Literaturtheorie ermöglicht und literaturtheoretische Forschungen über den deutsch- und englischsprachigen Raum hinaus erfasst werden. (Betaversion; Anbieter: Arbeitsstelle für Theorie der Literatur an der Universität Göttingen.)

▪ **Humanities International Complete**

"Humanities International Complete enthält den Volltext aus Hunderten von Zeitschriften, Büchern und anderen internationalen Publikationen. Diese von Whitston Publishing (zu EBSCO Publishing gehörig) erstellte Datenbank enthält alle Daten aus dem Humanities International Index (mehr als 2000 Titel und 2 Mio. Datensätze) sowie Volltexte aus ca. 770 Zeitschriften zum Themenschwerpunkt Geisteswissenschaften."

▪ **IIPA - International Index to Performing Arts**

"Der International Index Of Performing Arts Full Text, ist die erste Online-Datenbank, die über 300.000 Artikel und Zeitschriften mit ausgewählten vollständigen Texten, ab 1864 bis heute, in den Bereichen Film, Theater, Tanz und Musik zur Verfügung stellt. Über die Datenbank können Zitate, Abhandlungen, Abstracts und ausgewählte vollständige Texte bestimmter Journale/Zeitschriften im Bereich der performativen Künste gesucht und über das Web bezogen werden. "

▪ **MLA (Modern Language Association (MLA) International Bibliography)**

"access to more than 1.5 million bibliographic citations to journal articles, books, and

dissertations from 1963 to the present in academic disciplines such as: language, literature, folklore, linguistics, literary theory and criticism, and the dramatic arts"; from 1926.

## via EZB (Elektronische Zeitschriftenbibliothek = Electronic Journals Library):

- Year's Work in Critical and Cultural Theory, The (YWCCT)** (also via **LION = Literature Online**)

"The Year's Work in Critical & Cultural Theory is a companion volume to YWES. It provides a narrative bibliography of work in the field of critical and cultural theory, recording significant debates and issues of interest in a broad field of research in the humanities and social sciences. As the field of critical and cultural studies expands, so the range and scope of the volume grow, and volumes now include chapters on Queer theories and cultures and Film Studies. Future volumes will continue this development, particularly in the field of cultural theory and new areas developing in the USA and Australia. "
- Year's Work in English Studies, The (YWES)**

"The Year's Work in English Studies is the qualitative narrative bibliographical review of scholarly work on English language and literatures written in English.

Each volume includes a detailed overview from Old English to contemporary critical works for a given year, and contains critical notices for some 1100 books; extensive coverage of English Language, American Literature, New Literatures in English and English Literature; coverage of specialist periodicals; comprehensive indexing by critic, author, and subject; plus bibliographical endnotes for each chapter. YWES is an essential resource for scholars in any field of language or literary studies. "



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