

There are several approaches and many tools in the library to help you in your literature research.

**BIBLIOGRAPHIES** are lists of works by or about an author. Annotated bibliographies provide a summary paragraph of the work, so you can know in advance if the work will be helpful. Sometimes the end of a book or periodical article will include a bibliography. There are books which are entire bibliographies in themselves. These bibliographies are located in reference **016**. Following the 016. is the author's assigned Dewey Decimal call number. For example, the library owns **A Bibliography of Henry David Thoreau**, with the call number **R 016.818**. All of an author's bibliographies are grouped together.

**DATABASES** provide access to periodical articles, book chapters, and reference works about literary criticism.

The ***Literary Reference Center (LRC)*** is a comprehensive literary reference database, which provides users with a broad spectrum of reference information from many time periods. **LRC** is a full-text database that combines information from over 1,000 books and monographs, major literary encyclopedias and reference works, hundreds of literary journals, and other unique sources.

Other databases to consider include:

- ***Academic Search Premier*** (EBSCO)
- ***Annual Bibliography of English Language and Literature*** (OSearch)
- ***Arts and Humanities Citation Index*** (ISI)
- ***Humanities International Complete*** (EBSCO)
- ***MLA International Bibliography*** (EBSCO)

To access the databases, click on "Databases & Articles" > "By Title." Refer to the specific database user guide for more information on how to use these databases.

**PRINT INDEXES** should also be consulted.

<p>Fitzgerald, Frances Scott Key About individual works <i>The Great Gatsby</i> Lindberg, G. H. Promise land. In Lindberg, G. H. The confidence man in American literature p113-39</p>
--

If you need to find an essay or chapter in a book, use the **Essay and General Literature Index** located at R 016 E78. The index includes books and articles *published* between 1900-1984, which may or may not be the years the author was writing. The sample at

the left cites the *chapter*, "Promised Land," in the *book*, The Confidence Man in American Literature which is a literary criticism *about* The Great Gatsby, by F. Scott Fitzgerald.

---

Other **REFERENCE TOOLS** provide you with summary material about the literary work or the author. Titles which you may find helpful are listed below, with their call numbers:

- Library website      **Biography Resource Center**  
A full text biographical resource, which may include criticisms of literary works; located under "Databases & Articles" > "By Title"
- R 928.2  
S526B      **British Writers**  
11 volumes, Master Index includes titles, authors, and subjects
- R 928.1  
V788C      **Contemporary Foreign Language Writers**  
Arranged by author and title index
- R 928.1  
C77      **Contemporary Literary Criticism**  
Contains 94 volumes, arranged by author; including an annual cumulative title index published separately
- Library website      **Contemporary Literary Criticism**  
Critical essays on the works of authors now living or who died after 1959; located under "Databases & Articles" > "By Title"
- R 809.3  
M194C  
M195C  
M196C      **Critical Survey of Long Fiction**  
3 sets
- R 809.1  
C934  
M194C  
M195C      **Critical Survey of Poetry**  
Arranged by author, includes bibliographies; 3 sets
- R 809.33  
M194C  
M194C2      **Critical Survey of Short Fiction**  
2 sets
- R 801.95  
E56      **Encyclopedia of Literary Critics and Criticism**  
2 volumes
- R 928.1  
V787G      **Great Foreign Language Writers**  
Arranged by author and title index
- Library website      **Masterplots Complete 2000**  
Contains 21 sets of reference books including plot synopses, character descriptions, and author biographies; located under "Databases & Articles" > "By Title"
- R 928.1  
C775      **Nineteenth Century Literature Criticism**  
80+ volumes arranged by author with an annual cumulative title index published separately
- R 822.33  
Z3I6      **Shakespearean Criticism**  
2 volume set arranged by title
- R 809.04  
M19S      **Survey of Contemporary Literature**  
12 volumes arranged by title
- R 928.1  
C78      **Twentieth Century Literary Criticism**  
91 volumes, arranged by author with an annual cumulative title index published separately