

LOYOLA ENG 200-Level Shortcuts for Literary Research

Finding Articles :

To find articles on topics related to literature, use the following DATABASES:
(available from Library web page www.loyola.edu/library via English/Literature Resources or Databases by Title)

Literary Criticism:

- **MLA Bibliography** References to sources on literature, language and film. (1963-pres.)
- **LION** Provides text, criticism and biographical information of English and American authors.
- **World Shakespeare Bibliography** citations to books, articles, theatrical productions and other works on Shakespeare.

Additional Useful Resources:

- **Oxford English Dictionary** definitions, etymology and the history of words
- **JSTOR** Back files of full-text journals on many academic topics.
- **Project Muse** Full-text journals in literature, performing arts and other topics.

Searching the Databases:

- Formulate a thesis question on which your research will be centered
- Search a relevant database using keywords or search by subject when appropriate.
- Use **AND** to find citations containing both keywords: e.g., (symbolism AND Faulkner)
- Use **OR** for related terms to search for citations that contain one term OR the other.
e.g., (women or feminine)
- Always put OR phrases in the same search box and enclose with parentheses
- Use **truncation** (often the asterisk*) to retrieve similar words with different endings, e.g., spirit* will retrieve, spirits, spiritual, spirituality, etc.

Finding Full-Text:

Often the databases will provide citations but not the full-text on an article. When you have a citation and need to find the full-text, try the following steps.

- Search *Electronic journals* to see if a journal is full-text online (search by title of the journal NOT title of the article).
- Search the Library Catalog (**SHARC**) to see if a journal is located in our library.
- Request an article from interlibrary loan (ILL) if not full-text online or in the library. (use the Request forms on the library's home page)

Finding Books:

- Search the Library Catalog (**SHARC**) by keyword, title, author or subject.
- The library catalog is shared by 3 other libraries. Use the request button at the top of the page to request a book from one of these other libraries (24-48 hour turn around).
- If you can't find a book in the library catalog, you can request it through ILL

MLA Style for Citations:

Citations that you find in databases, such as the *MLA Bibliography*, *LION* and the library catalog are not formatted in the **MLA style** but should include the necessary elements. The library's web site has a tip sheet at:

<http://www.loyola.edu/library/ref/MLASTYLE.HTM>

See also: Hacker, Diana. *A Writer's Reference*. 5th ed. Boston: St. Martin's, 2003.

Journal articles:

Citations include author of article, title of article, journal title, volume, issue number (if given), date and page numbers.

MLA Bibliography Citation: Journal article

Title of article **Author of article** **Journal title**

[Religious Symbols in Salinger's Shorter Fiction](#) By: **Cotter**, James Finn; *Studies in Short Fiction*, 1978; 15: 121-32. (journal article)

Date **Volume** **Pages**

[Linked Full Text](#)

Same Citation in MLA Style: Journal article

Cotter, James Finn. "Religious Symbols in Salinger's Shorter Fiction." *Studies in Short Fiction* 15(1978): 121-32. *MLA International Bibliography*. 18 Jan. 2005. <http://search.epnet.com>

Essays in books (also called chapters, book articles):

Citations include author of essay, title of essay, title of book, editor of book, edition (if given), place of publication, publisher, date published, page numbers.

MLA Bibliography Citation

[From Salinger to Cormier: Disillusionment to Despair in Thirty Years](#) By: Lukens, Rebecca; pp. 7-13 *IN*: Milner, Joseph O'Beirne (ed.); Milner, Lucy Floyd Morcock (ed.); *Webs and Wardrobes: Humanist and Religious World Views in Children's Literature*. Lanham, MD: UPs of America; 1987. x, 159 pp. (book article)

Same Citation in MLA Style

Author of essay **Title of essay**

Lukens, Rebecca. "From Salinger to Cormier: Disillusionment to Despair in Thirty Years." *Webs and Wardrobes: Humanist and Religious World Views in Children's Literature*. Ed. Joseph O'Beirne Milner and Lucy Floyd Morcock Milner. Lanham, MD: University Press of America, 1987. 7-13.

Pages **Book title** **Editor(s)** **Publisher**