



Collier Library - Pathfinder

The UNIVERSITY of NORTH ALABAMA LIBRARIES

AMERICAN LITERATURE

SCOPE: The purpose of this pathfinder is to introduce some of the resources available in Collier Library in the field of American Literature. Please note that this guide is not a comprehensive listing of sources, but is intended to be a starting point from which students can begin their research according to their specific needs.

The Library of Congress Class that includes American Literature is PS. BROWSING the following CALL NUMBERS may produce helpful titles: (For a more complete listing see <<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpso/lcco/lcco.html>>)

PS 1 – 3576	American Literature	PS360-380	Prose
PS 147 -152	Women Authors	PS490	Juvenile Literature
PS301-326	Poetry	PS501-689	Collections of American Literature
PS330-353	Drama	PS700-3576	Individual Authors

In the event you do not find what you are looking for by browsing consult [UNACAT](#), the online catalog. The following are selected SUBJECT HEADINGS, which appear in [UNACAT](#).

[AMERICAN LITERATURE](#)

[AMERICAN DRAMA](#)

[AUTHORS, AMERICAN](#)

[AMERICAN FICTION](#)

[AMERICAN POETRY](#)

[AMERICAN PROSE LITERATURE](#)

Other Subject headings can be identified by using **Library of Congress Subject Headings**, located on the dictionary stand in the Reference Area.

BEGINNING RESEARCH – SELECTED SOURCES

Introduction and overview material

- § **Cambridge History of American Literature** [Ref PS 92 .C34] ed. by Saevan Barcovitch
- § **Cambridge Guide to Literature in English** [Ref PR 85 .C29]
- § **[Reader's Guide to Literature in English](#)** [PR 85 .R42 1996] by Mark Hawkins-Dady. This title is also available as an Electronic Book (A link is provided in [UNACAT](#) to the online full-text of this work.)

Literature guides and bibliographies

- § **American Literature: A Study and Research Guide** [Ref Z 1225 .L47] by Lewis Leary
- § **Bibliography of American Literature: a Selective Index** [Ref Z 1225 .W73] by Michael Winship
- § **Bibliography of American Literature: a Selective Index** [Ref Z 1225. W73]
- § **Columbia Literary History of the United States** [Ref PS 92.C64]
- § **Guide to American Literature and Its Backgrounds Since 1890** [Ref Z 1225 .J5] by Howard Jones
- § **Index Guide to Modern American Literature and Modern British Literature** [Ref PS 221 .C83 I53]
- § **Literary Research Guide** [Ref Z 2011 .H34] by James L. Harner.
- § **Reference Guide to American Literature** [Ref PS 129. R44]

- § **Research Guide for Undergraduate Students: English and American Literature [Ref PR 56 .B34]** by Nancy L. Baker.

Encyclopedias and Dictionaries

- § **A Dictionary of Literary Terms and Literary Theory [Ref PN 41 .C83 1998]** by J.A. Cuddon
- § **A Glossary of Literary Terms [Ref PN 41 .A184 1993]** by M.H. Abrams
- § **Benet's Reader's Encyclopedia of American Literature [PN 41 .B4 1991]**
- § **Concise Dictionary of American Literature [Ref PS 21 .R5]** by Robert Richards
- § **Concise Oxford Dictionary of Literary Terms [Ref PN 41 .C67 2001]** by Chris Baldick
- § **Dictionary of American Literary Characters [Ref PS 374 .C43 D5 2002]**
- § **Encyclopedia of American Literature [Ref PS 21 . E 53 1999]**
- § **Greenwood Encyclopedia of African American Literature [Ref PS 153. N5 C73 2005]**
- § **Greenwood Encyclopedia to Multiethnic American Literature [Ref PS 153.M56 G74 2005]**
- § **New Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics [Ref PN 1021 .N39 1993]**

Handbooks, Manuals & Yearbooks

- § **Cambridge Handbook of American Literature [Ref PS 21 .C36]**
- § **Concise Oxford Companion to African American Literature [Ref PS 153. N5 C 59 2001]**
- § English Association. **Year's Work in English Studies** V. 58 - 1977- [Ref PE 58 .E6] Also see <<http://ywes.oxfordjournals.org/archive>>
- § **Facts on File Companion to the American Novel [Ref PS 371. F33 2006]**
- § **Handbook of American Literature: a Comprehensive Study From Colonial Times to the Present Day [Ref PS 88 .D2981976]** by Martin S. Day
- § **Oxford Companion to American Literature [Ref PS 21 .H3 1995]** by James D. Hart
- § **Reference Guide to American Literature [Ref PS 129 .R44]**

Biographical Sources

- § **African American Authors: 1745-1945: Bio-bibliographical Critical Sourcebook [Ref PS 153. N5 A32 2000]**
- § **American Writers: a Collection of Literary Biographies [Ref PS 129 .A55]**
- § **Asian American Short Story Writers: An A-Z Guide [Ref PS 153. A84 A828]** This title is also available as an Electronic Book. (A link is provided in UNACAT to the full- text.)
- § **Research Guide to Biography and Criticism [Ref Z 2011 .R47 1991]** edited by Walton Beacham
- § **Biography Resource Center** (online database) See the libraries database page: <<http://www2.una.edu/library/databases.htm>>
- § **Contemporary American Women Fiction Writers: An A-Z Guide [Ref PS 374 .W6 C66 2002]**
- § **Contemporary Authors** (online database) See the libraries database page: <<http://www2.una.edu/library/databases.htm>>
- § **Hispanic Literature of the United States: A Comprehensive Reference [Ref PS 153. H56 K36 2003]** by Nicolas Kanellos
- § **MagillOnAuthors** (online database) See the libraries database page: <<http://www2.una.edu/library/databases.htm>>
- § **Nineteenth Century American Women Writers: A Bio-bibliographical Critical Sourcebook [Ref PS 217.W64 N56 1997]**
- § **Scribner Writer's Series** (online database) See the libraries database page: <<http://www2.una.edu/library/databases.htm>>
- § **Twayne's Authors Series** (online database) See the libraries database page: <<http://www2.una.edu/library/databases.htm>>

SUGGESTED DATABASES FOR LOCATING PERIODICAL ARTICLES on American Literature

[Gale Literary Databases](#)

[JSTOR](#)

[Literary Reference Center](#)

[Literature Online](#)

[Literature Resource Center](#)

[Oxford Reference Online Premium](#)

[Project MUSE](#)

A few frequently used PERIODICALS in American Literature are:

American Literary History

American Literature

American Poetry Review

ANQ (American Notes & Queries)

College English

College Literature

Early American Literature

Explicator

MLN (Modern Language Notes)

MLQ (Modern Language Quarterly)

Modern Fiction Studies

Nineteenth Century Literature

PMLA (Publications of the Modern Language Association)

Sewanee Review

Twentieth Century Literature

William and Mary Quarterly

PERIODICAL titles held by the library can be identified by clicking the [PERIODICAL HOLDINGS](#) link under "Find Articles" on the library website at <http://www2.una.edu/library> or by searching in [UNACAT](#).

INTERLIBRARY LOAN It is possible to borrow books or obtain copies of articles from other libraries if the material is unavailable locally. Inquire at the Reference Desk or consult the library's web site for policy information and request forms at: <http://www2.una.edu/library/illindex.htm>.

SUGGESTED WEBSITES

See the **LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE** heading in the Internet Resources Collection
<<http://www2.una.edu/library/sa05/index.htm>>

HAVE A QUESTION? ASK A LIBRARIAN.