CIRCULATING BOOKS

The Library’s Catalog on the library’s home page, lists books and e books available in the TCC Library. Use subject keyword to search for the name of your author and the word criticism or the author’s name and part of the name of the work, for example:

Walker Alice criticism or Shakespeare Hamlet

A subject browse search will yield an alphabetical list starting with the author’s name. The subheading “Criticism and Interpretation” may be especially useful. An author browse search will provide a list of books by the author, but not, necessarily, about the author. An all keyword search is a powerful tool for finding individual chapters in books that contain criticism of more than one author.

PRINT REFERENCE SOURCES

Literary Criticism: A guide to Criticism in the Tacoma Community College Library Printout is a good place to look for books on literary criticism that may not be found in a catalog search. The Literary Criticism guide is organized alphabetically by author’s last name followed by an alphabetized list of individual works

Explicator (located on index table) This is a periodical in multiple bound volumes, containing brief articles on individual works. Indexes for the Explicator, by author and title, are in a green binder in the same area. The Explicator is also indexed and available in full text in the Academic Search Premier (Ebsco) database.

Magill Critical Surveys (located on index table) multi-volume sets covering poetry, drama, short fiction and long fiction. Use the index volume to find references to specific works by an author; if a specific work is not listed, the "Analysis" section within the discussion of an author will identify typical characteristics of an author’s work and can be applied to specific works.

Masterplots II (located on literature index table)—African American Literature Series, Poetry Series and Short Story Series. Look for poem or story, arranged in alphabetical order by title.

CLC, NCLC and TCLC (located in Reference stacks). These volumes consist of excerpts from various sources of criticism (both books and periodicals). The cumulative author index in the most recent volume contains references to entries in the entire set. Cumulative indexes to individual works are located in the paperbound indexes. See also Online databases.

- CLC (Contemporary Literary Criticism) PN771.C59 Covers more than 2,000 authors now living or who have died since December 31, 1959.

- NCLC (Nineteenth Century Literature Criticism) PN761.N56 Covers authors who died between 1800 and 1899.

- TCLC (Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism) PN771.T9 Covers authors who died between 1900 and 1960.
ONLINE DATABASES

From the library’s home page menu choose “All Research Databases.” Click on either *Dictionary of Literary Biography* or *Contemporary Literary Criticism*.

Since both are provided by the same publishing company, you can search them simultaneously by clicking the “Search All Databases” tab.

Enter the author’s surname in the search box and/or the title of the specific work you are researching. Click on any of the linked results to view the full text. The best method for printing out (or emailing) the text is to copy it and then paste it into a Word or (other word processing software) document. To email, save your document, open your email account, choose compose, address the email to yourself and then attach the document you created.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

The *Academic Search Premier* and *ProQuest* periodical databases are available through the Internet. Start at the library’s home page and click on either link.

In *Academic Search Premier* try keyword searching using the author’s name and the word “criticism” or part of the name of the work.

Hawthorne criticism or Chopin hour

In *ProQuest*, choose the “Advanced Search.” Type the author’s surname in the “Person” field and type the word “criticism” and/or a few words from the title of interest in the “Citation and article text” field(s).

INTERNET

The internet contains useful sources of information about literary works and authors, particularly classic works in the public domain. There are also sources for many contemporary authors; in fact, the Internet may be one of the best places to find biographical information and book reviews for authors who are very recently published. Be mindful that the Internet also contains incomplete and incorrect information. The TCC Library *Tutorials>Research>Evaluating Sources* page is especially useful for determining appropriate web sources:

TCC Library Home Page <http://www.tacomacc.edu/library>

Library Hours
7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday
7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Fridays

Reference Desk telephone (all open hours) 253.566.5134

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