

E891. Medieval Latin
Harris

Research Guides

Here are some general notes to remind you of or to introduce you to sources.

Encyclopedias and Dictionaries: <http://www.library.umass.edu/catalog/dic.html>

Oxford Reference Online All the Oxford Guides to Everything (including the guide to literature). Search “Oxford Reference Online” in TITLE to connect.

Databases: <http://www.library.umass.edu/> → Databases

1. **MLA Bibliography** this is the database of the Modern Language Association. It lists most of the secondary work in literature and modern language study. Essential.
2. **Book review Digest.** Read what a book is about before spending an hour looking for it.
3. **JSTOR** tons of highly respected journals, full-text, and on-line.
4. **Contemporary Literary Criticism**
5. **Early English Books** images of books 1475-1700, full text search.
6. **Essay and General Literature Index**
7. **Grove Dictionary of Art**
8. **Historical New York Times**
9. **Humanities Index**
10. **Infotrac** includes lit. crit
11. **NetLibrary** sign up free, access to hundreds of e-books

There are dozens of others. Take some time to browse.

REFERENCE BOOKS

All good libraries have general guides to topics and periods. Check pamphlet displays. UMass has set up subject pages (e.g., history, English, etc).

*Note that the Library of Congress call numbers (e.g. PA 203) apply to both reference books and stack books. Poetry books can be found in the **PN** section on the 12th floor, poetry reference can be found in the **Ref PN** section in the basement. Browse!*

Guides to Reference Books

Harner, James L. *Literary research guide : a guide to reference sources for the study of literatures in English and related topics.* ref Z2011 .h34 1993 The best single stop for research in literature. (There may be some free copies in the Grad office.)

Altick and Wright, *Selective Bibliography for the Study of English and American Literature* **ref Z2011.A1 A47 1979**

Bibliographic Index: A Cumulative Bibliography of Bibliographies 1988- present
ref Z 1002 .b595

Sheehy, Eugene P. *Guide to Reference Books*. **ref Z 1035.1 s43**

Literary Guides

Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics **ref PN 1021 e5** [excellent resource]
Literary Criticism in Antiquity, 2 vols. **ref PA 3015 .a8**
Oxford History of English Literature, 12 vols., catalogued under author
Masterplots (official Cole's Notes!) **ref PN 44 .m35**

Guides to Periods

Ask faculty for a list of the best books in your field (e.g. Romantics, 18th Century, Medieval, etc.), or check Harner.

Guides to Research in Specific Fields

Each field compiles an annual bibliography. These are reviewed in *The Years Work in English Studies* (YWES) **ref Z 2001 .y4**

Old English. *Old English Newsletter*, and *Anglo-Saxon England*
Renaissance. *Studies in Philology*, *Shakespeare Quarterly*
18th Century. *Philological Quarterly*, and see **PR 1105 .e5 z99**
Romantics. *ELH*, *Philological Quarterly*, and *English Language Notes*
Victorian. *Modern Philology* and **DA 550**
20th Century. *Twentieth-Century Literature* (Gale) and **PR 1 s73**
American. *American Literature* **PS 1 .a6**

THE FIGURA PAPER

There are dozens of suitable reference books. Two of the better ones for this area are:

A Dictionary of Biblical Tradition in English literature. Ed. David Lyle Jeffrey. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1992. **Ref PR 149 .b b5**. Includes keyword entries as well as a long bibliography of Biblical exegesis, allegories, bestiaries, and so forth.

Kaske, Robert E. *Medieval Christian Literary Imagery: a guide to interpretation*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1988. **Z 6517 k38**. A bibliography.