Guide to Planning your Research – LITERATURE, AMERICAN

Step 1: Define subject

Handbooks:

Encyclopedias:
- Encyclopedia of Southern Literature REF. PS 261 .S5151 1997

Step 2: Vocabulary or Thesaurus

Dictionaries:

Step 3: Sources of information: collections of books & videos (library catalog)

Gates Memorial Library Catalog

Twentieth Century Authors
Author: Dawber, R.P.R.
Call Number: (REF) PN 771 .K86 (various years)
Location: REFERENCE
Availability: Non-Circulating

August Wilson : The American Dream, In Black and White [Videorecording]
Author: Wilson, August
Call Number: PS 3573 .J45677 A9 2000
Location: INQUIRE AT CIRCULATION DESK
Availability: Available for Circulation

Periodicals: magazines & journals found in the Academic Search Complete electronic database:

- African American Review (1990 – present)
- American Literature (1929 – present)
- American Notes & Queries (1962 – present)
- American Scholar (1974 – present)
- ATQ (1990 – 2008)
- Black American Literature Forum (1990 – present)
- Early American Literature (1973 – present)
- Hudson Review (2001 – present)
- Mississippi Quarterly (1995 – present)
- Sewanee Review (1990 – present)
- The Southern Literary Journal (1993 – present)
- Southern Quarterly (2005 – present)
- Twentieth Century Literature (1975 – present)
- Virginia Quarterly Review (1990 – present)

PERIODICAL DATABASES

Online information databases are large, regularly updated collections of digitized information -- including but not limited to abstracts and full text articles from journals and newspapers, conference proceedings and submitted papers, dissertations, government reports, essays, book chapters, web pages, etc. The content is created by publishers who release print versions, then lease the rights to their information to database vendors. Database records are easy to search and retrieve because the content of each record has been analyzed and assigned appropriate subject headings, keywords, names, etc. New records are regularly downloaded from the producer of each database. Gates Memorial Library Databases
• Academic Search Complete
• Book Review Digest Plus
• Contemporary Authors
• Contemporary Literary Criticism Select
• Dictionary of Literary Biography
• Directory of Open Access Journals
• Essay and General Literature Index
• Literary Reference Center
• Play Index
• Scribner Writer Series
• Texas Reference Center
• Twayne's Authors Series

American Literature Resources on the Web (associations, universities, organizations, etc.)

  - Alex Catalogue of Electronic Texts
  - American Authors on the Web
  - American Literature
  - American Literature Sites
  - American Verse Project (University of Michigan)
  - American Writers : A Journal through History
  - Early American Women Writers
  - Library of Southern Literature
  - Literary Resources on the Net
  - Modernist Journals Project
  - PAL : Perspectives in American Literature
  - Southern Literature and Culture on the Internet

Citing Sources
Each database provides “How to cite” for each article but these sites provide more information for citing various media (books, databases, websites, etc.)

The guides and links in this section will enable persons to properly use body citations and create works cited or bibliography pages.

• Citation Guides Resources Page
• APA Style
• MLA Style
• Referencing Tool
• Son of Citation Machine
• Turabian Style
• University of California Berkeley (APA, MLA, Chicago)

If you need further assistance, please ask a librarian, in person or online Ask/Chat with a Librarian

Lamar State College, Library Services, 317 Stilwell Blvd., Port Arthur, TX 409-984-6220