

Ferdinand D. Bluford Library

BOOK REVIEWS

Book reviews are important resources for your research because they help you to survey the reactions to a book at the time of publication and provide summaries of a book's contents. To search for book reviews at Bluford Library use the following:

Using the INNOPAC

Establishing what resources the library owns on the subject you are researching should be your first priority. In order to find that information, the student must use the INNOPAC, the online catalog in our library. The INNOPAC can be searched by **AUTHOR, TITLE, KEYWORD, JOURNAL TITLE** and by **SUBJECT HEADING**. If you are going to do a **keyword search** you can either enter a word that may appear in the title or in the description of the work. If you are going to do a **subject search** you should use the Library of Congress Subject Headings located next to the computer workstations to help you determine the correct heading to use. There are several other options on narrowing or limiting your search and on identifying similar titles. Please refer to the INNOPAC Handout at the Information Center for more detailed instruction or ask for assistance from a Reference Librarian.

PRINTED SOURCES (INDEXES & ABSTRACTS)

To locate articles that are pertinent to your research, you need to use indexes and abstracts to journal and newspaper literature. The printed indexes and abstracts are located in the Reference Collection by call number. They are especially useful for pre-1990s literature search.

American, History and Life. Part B, Index to Book Reviews (A&T Ref Z1236.A485) 1975

Book Review Digest (A&T Ref Indexes Z1219.C95) 1905 -

Book Review Index – (A&T Ref Indexes Z1035.A1 B6) 1965 -

Business Periodical Index– (A&T Ref Z7164.C81 B893) 1975-1997

Education Index – (A&T Ref Indexes Z5813.E23) 1929-1999

A Guide to Critical Reviews– (A&T Ref Z5782.S3.42) 1973-1979

Humanities Index– (A&T Ref Indexes A13 H85) 1974-1997

Index to Black Periodicals– (A&T Ref Indexes A13 O4) 1959-2001

Linguistics and Language Behavior Abstracts: LLBA –
(A&T Ref Abstracts Z7001.L15) 1973-2001

Magill's Guide to Science Fiction and Fantasy Literature– (A&T Ref PN3433.8.M24) 1966 -

The Music Index– (A&T Ref Indexes ML118.M84) 1967-

New York Times Index– (A&T Ref Indexes A1 21 N45) 1851-2002

Psychological Abstracts– (A&T Ref Indexes BF1 P65) 1927-2002

Readers's Guide to Periodical Literature– (A&T Ref Indexes A13.R4) 1900-2003

Review of the Arts, Film and Television– (A&T Ref PN1993.N4) 1975 -
Science Fiction Book Review Index – (A&T Ref Z5917. S36 H35 1923-1973
Social Sciences Index– (A&T Ref Indexes A13.S62) 1975-1997
Sociological Abstracts– (A&T Ref Abstracts HM1.S67) 1970-2001

Electronic Databases

Selecting the best bibliographic database or print index for your information need is an important step in any search for information. Each electronic database and print index is unique in its subject coverage and scope, although there may be some overlap between them.

Academic Search Premier

Database contains indexing for over 8,200 publications, with full text for nearly 4,650 of those titles.

At the Advance Search mode, search for book title in one column and author's last name in another column.

Alternative Press Index

This database covers alternative, radical and leftist publications in North America. Articles include columns, essays, fiction, speeches, interviews, obituaries, reviews and more.

Search for books review by author/title.

Book Index with Reviews (BIR)

This is a comprehensive database that provides information on over 3.8 million book titles in a wide range of formats, including large prints and books on tape. It also has over 800,000 full text searchable reviews.

Infor Trac OneFile

Is an index to general periodicals and scholarly journals providing millions of full-text articles.

Use a combination of the title and the word **review!** in the keyword search.

The exclamation point is a wildcard and allows for the retrieval of both review and reviews.

Example: *How do dinosaurs say good night and review!*

International Index to Black Periodicals (IIBP)

Full-text coverage of over 40 core Black Studies periodicals, plus citations and abstracts from over 150 scholarly and popular journals.

Select “**search**”

Under “**Document Type,**” select “**Book Reviews.**”

JSTOR

JSTOR (*Journal Storage*, founded in 1995) is an online system for achieving academic journals. It provides full-text searches of digitized (scanned) back issues of several hundred well known journals, dating back to 1665 in the case of the Philosophical Transactions.

Perform Advance Search

Search title, author's name and limit to review.

You will get matching results

Lexis Nexis Academic

Contains journals, magazines, transcripts, newspapers, newsletters, and other sources covering news, business, legal, and other types of information.

To access book reviews, select the **Arts & Sports News**

Then select **Book, Movie, Music & Play Reviews**

Example: *Jane Yolen's Queen's Own Fool: A Novel of Mary Queen of Scots.*

MasterFile Premier

Indexes over 2,600 general periodicals. Full text of articles for nearly 2,000 periodicals, and 5,000 full text Magill Book.

Perform keyword search with title and author's name.

MLA Bibliography

An index to scholarly articles from journals dealing with literature, language, linguistics, and folklore.

To search for reviews of books about literature, classics, language, linguistics, folklore and film, simply do a keyword search for the title and/or author.

Project Muse

Full text of scholarly journals covering the humanities and social sciences. It provides full-text access to over 300 humanities, arts and social sciences journals.

Search for book title first.

Proquest Direct

Search available ProQuest databases simultaneously. Indexes films, book reviews, videos etc. from journals and newspapers, some are available in full text.

In the Advance Search mode, enter book title

Limit your search to “**review,**” and “**Document type.**”

Example: *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon and review!*

PsycINFO via EBSCO Databases

PsycINFO database contains references to psychological literature from the 1800s–present, from journal articles, books, book chapters, technical reports, and dissertations. This database contains only abstracts and bibliographic citations, not the full-text of the articles.

To access book reviews, perform a keyword search with book title.

Example: *Handbook of Psychological Assessment*

Sociological Abstracts via Cambridge Scientific Abstracts (CSA)

Sociological Abstracts indexes and abstracts the world's leading journals in sociology. It covers articles published since 1974. There is extensive coverage of sociolinguistics. It is the online version of Sociological Abstracts.

To access book reviews, select the **Social Sciences** database at **CSA**

Enter book title

Example: *Youth Crime and Youth Culture in the Inner City*

Web of Science.

Includes Science Citation Index, Social Sciences Citation Index, and Arts & Humanities Citation Index

To access citations to book reviews in the Social Sciences

Uncheck the **Science Citation Index**

Leave **Social Science** and **Arts & Humanities** checked

Choose the **General Search** and type book title

Use **Cited Reference** search to determine number of times specific article has been cited

Example: *Youth Crime and Youth Culture in the Inner City*

Wilson Web

It provides full-text of articles, interviews, obituaries, bibliographies, original works of fiction, drama, and poetry, as well as reviews of ballets, dance programs, motion pictures, musicals, operas, plays and more.

To find reviews of books, search for author, title, and/or subject as

“**All-Smart Search**”

Then type “Book Review” and select “**Document Type**”

Example: *Youth Crime and Youth Culture in the Inner City*

Internet Resources

The focus of this section is to provide a list of World Wide Web sites about book reviews.

EH.Net Book Reviews (<http://eh.net/bookreviews/>)

EH.Net Review offers reviews of new releases of interest to scholars and teachers in the fields of economic history, business history, and the history of economics.

All book reviews are posted to the EH.Net-Review list, then added to **EH.Net's book review library**. **EH.Net's book review library** is available to anyone worldwide without charge. The archive is searchable by keyword, author, title, subject, time period, and geographic code. If you use these reviews, please cite EH.Net as the source.

Google Scholar (<http://scholar.google.com/>)

At this site, search for scholarly literature across many disciplines and sources, including theses, books, abstracts and articles.

Type name of author followed with comma and book title.