**About The LAMP Database**

**LITERARY REFERENCE CENTER PLUS [LRCP]**

This extraordinary online literary information system offers us:

- Extensive information of various kinds about authors and their works – general discussions/explanations about all aspects of literature, the life and work of authors of all genres, literary criticism, reviews, plot summaries, and other topics related to these literary critical considerations;

- And this extensive, diverse information from a wide range of highly regarded sources – books, journal articles, etc.;

- With the full text of all this information in all its breadth and depth – immediately, conveniently online.

**INFORMATION COMPETENCY / LITERACY**

This guide is framed according to the three dynamics of “information competency” (also and actually more widely referred to as “information literacy”) – namely:

1) Deciding what information is needed;
2) Finding the information that’s needed efficiently and effectively;
3) Using the information that’s found well and wisely – for example: by thinking critically about the information, citing it, etc.

For more about “information competency/literacy” see, for example:

http://www.ala.org/acrl/issues/infolit/overview/intro

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Below are “bookmarks” to the various sections of the directions on the pages that follow. To “jump down” in this document to these respective sections, point your mouse to a given bookmark and simply follow the directions given in the small window that appears.

1) **Deciding What Information You Need**

2) **Finding The Information You Need Efficiently & Effectively**

2A) **Accessing LITERARY REFERENCE CENTER PLUS From LAMP's Databases A-Z**

2B) **Searching LITERARY REFERENCE CENTER PLUS**

   - Advanced Searching For Information About A Literary Work
   - Advanced Searching For Information About An Author

2C) **Working with Results**

   - Refining or Limiting Your Results
   - For Example – Consider The Following
   - Looking At The Full Description & Full Text Of An Article

3) **Using The Information You Find Well & Wisely**

   - Citing Articles Of Interest & Use
1) DECIDING WHAT INFORMATION YOU NEED

For Ms. St. Peters’ ENG-1B assignments this varies – so be sure to read carefully the assignment prompts or handouts for respective assignments – for example, these three assignments: Writing Center Assignment, Out-of-Class Assignment #1, and Out-of-Class Assignment #2.

2) FINDING THE INFORMATION YOU NEED EFFICIENTLY & EFFECTIVELY

For Example, By Using LITERARY REFERENCE CENTER PLUS [LCRP]

2A) Accessing LITERARY REFERENCE CENTER PLUS
From LAMP’s Databases A-Z

NOTE WELL! You can do this from on or off campus.
For off-campus access, see: http://library.rcc.edu/riverside/remoteaccess.htm

- From LAMP’s homepage – click on DATABASES A-Z. What results is a table in the left column, listed alphabetically by database name, are all of the databases available from RCC Library’s LAMP website.
- Scroll down to and click on LITERARY REFERENCE CENTER PLUS [LRCP]. Note that as you scroll your mouse over any given database name a small window appears with a brief description of that database.
- After clicking on LRCP, what appears is the BASIC SEARCH screen – with its various sections, for example:
  - On the left side (or in the left column) of the page – the BROWSE and REFERENCE SHELF sections, each with many links; and below these – a CONTENT SPOTLIGHT feature.
  - Then in the main part of the screen – a BOOK HIGHLIGHT section and below that a FEATURED WORK and FEATURED AUTHOR section.

From The BASIC SEARCH SCREEN Switch To The ADVANCED Search Screen

- BASIC SEARCH – You could search from LRCP’s BASIC SEARCH screen
  - By KEYWORD – by typing keywords and/or phrases descriptive of information you want in the main, longer text box in the top left corner of the screen – this is the text box immediately to the right of a smaller text box with KEYWORD listed in it;
  - By AUTHOR or TITLE – by clicking on the down arrow just to the right of KEYWORD in the first, small text box, then from the drop-down menu, clicking on either AUTHOR or TITLE, and then typing the name of either an AUTHOR’S NAME or the TITLE OF SOME LITERARY WORK in the main, longer text box;
  - Or by searching in other ways by clicking on the various links provided, both in the sections in the left column and/or those links in the main section of the screen (as these were briefly mentioned above).
- ADVANCED SEARCH – However, ADVANCED SEARCH may be preferable – so simply click on ADVANCED SEARCH ... a link under the text box in the top left corner of the BASIC SEARCH screen.
The directions below are for **just one of the ways** to use **LRCP’s ADVANCED SEARCH** screen to search either by the **TITLE OF A LITERARY WORK** or by an **AUTHOR**.

There are other ways **to make good use of this ADVANCED SEARCH screen** and many other helpful LRCP features – to learn and benefit from these do the following:

- Ask one of the RCC librarians; and/or
- Click on **HELP** in the upper right corner of an **LRCP** screen. From the window that opens, see the left column for the many help topics listed, including **at the very bottom of this list, a link to DATABASE HELP specifically for LITERARY REFERENCE CENTER PLUS**.

**ADVANCED SEARCHING** For Information **ABOUT A LITERARY WORK**

By searching on the **TITLE** of a specific short story, novel, poem, play, screenplay, etc.

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**NOTE**

For Ms. St.Peters’ ENG-1B WRITING CENTER ASSIGNMENT (and as stated in bullet point #2 of the assignment sheet) – if you can’t find articles (literary criticism or some other kind of information) about a specific work (short story, etc.) when searching directly on its title (as described below), then you should try searching on the title of the collection in which the short story was first published.

In that case, also follow the directions given below – but, as indicated just above, search on the title of the collection, rather than the title of a specific short story that appears in this collection.

For example, when searching LRCP on the title of the short story “Snow” by Julia Alvarez, there are no results; but when searching on title of the work in which “Snow” was first published, namely: “**HOW THE GARCIA GIRLS LOST THEIR ACCENTS**,” there are results.

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- At the **ADVANCED SEARCH screen**, in the first text box: type **the exact title of your literary work** – and if this title is more than two words or more, type the title inside quotation marks (so that it’s searched as this exact title).

  **EXAMPLES**: “Hills Like White Elephants” / “Young Goodman Brown” / Etc.

- Note the text box to the right of this first text box – with **Select a field (optional)** displayed in this text box to the right of the first text box.

  Note too the down arrow to the right of this text box – and that when you click on it what results in a drop-down menu with the various fields of a bibliographic record (the full description) of an item indexed by **LRCP** – these fields or parts of this description that you could specify to be searched for the words/phrases you type in the very first text box (the one to the left of this second **Select a field (optional)** text box.

  But initially – **do NOT select one of these other fields to be searched** – instead leave this second box with **Select a field (optional)** displayed in it.

- Then click on the **SEARCH button** – and if there are results, they’ll be displayed in the main part of the screen as a **list of titles of articles** that someplace in their respective full descriptions have the title of the work for which you’re searching and, therefore, are presumably about this work in some way.
ADVANCED SEARCHING For Information ABOUT AN AUTHOR

By searching on an AUTHOR’S NAME

- At the ADVANCED SEARCH screen, in the first text box: type the name of the author inside quotation

  EXAMPLES: “Ernest Hemingway” / “Nathaniel Hawthorne” / Etc.

- Note the text box to the right of this first text box – with Select a field (optional) displayed in this text box.

  Note too the down arrow to the right of this text box – and that when you click on it what results in a drop-down menu with the various fields of a bibliographic record (full description) of an item indexed by LRCP – these fields or parts of this description that you could specify to be searched for the words/phrases you type in the very first text box (the one to the left of this second Select a field (optional) text box.

  But initially – do NOT select one of these other fields to be searched - instead leave this text box to the right of the first text box with Select a field (optional) displayed in it.

- Then click on the SEARCH button – and if there are results, they’ll be displayed in the main part of the screen as a list of titles of articles that someplace in their respective full descriptions have the name of the author you’re searching and, therefore, are presumably about that author in some way.
2C) WORKING WITH RESULTS

From either an “ABOUT A LITERARY WORK” search or an ”ABOUT AN AUTHOR” search as described above – what results is a list of titles of articles that somewhere in their respective full descriptions (bibliographic records) have the keywords/phrases you search on – and, depending on how classic/famous and, therefore, how much has been written about a given work or an author, this can be a long list of titles, a long results list. Note that the actual number of results is listed to the right of the SEARCH RESULTS header at the top of a results list.

=> Refining Or Limiting Your Results Using The Left-Column REFINE RESULTS Options

- **REFINE RESULTS** – This the on the left side/in the left column of a results list page and offers many ways to refine or limit a results list, and so as you look down/scroll down this column you see these various refining/limiting results options, per these left-column sections:

  o **LIMIT TO** – For limiting results to those articles with their FULL TEXT online, to those articles from SCHOLARLY (Peer-Reviewed) JOURNALS, etc.
  
  o **SOURCE TYPES** – With its list of important source types – including, depending on a given results list, specifically “literary critical” information-source types like: BIOGRAPHY, LITERARY CRITICISM, PLOT SUMMARIES, Etc
  
  o **SUBJECT** – For limiting results to articles that have been read by experts and based on their analysis of respective articles have been assigned official subject headings (indexing terms) that briefly describe what respective articles are about.

  Be sure to click on the link: SHOW MORE in the lower right corner of this SUBJECT section to see all subject headings listed in this section – that is, all subject headings that have been assigned to one or the other of the articles resulting from your search.

=> For Example – Consider The Following:

- **In LIMIT TO** – click on FULL TEXT to see from the results only those articles with their full text immediately, conveniently online.

  Then too and because instructors often ask that you find at least some articles from SCHOLARLY JOURNALS – at some point you may wish to click on SCHOLARLY (Peer-Reviewed) JOURNALS.

- **In SOURCE TYPES** – Again, note the various source types listed. If LITERARY CRITICISM or BIOGRAPHY are among these source types listed, consider clicking on one or the other of these, depending on the information you’re seeking – whether about a specific work (literary criticism) or about an author (biography) to limit results to articles of one or the other of these source types.

- **In SUBJECT** – click on the SHOW MORE link in the bottom right corner of the section to see all of the SUBJECT HEADINGS (indexing terms) listed.

  Then look through these and click on those likely to give you the kind of information you’re seeking – for example:

    o When searching on a specific literary work or author, look for subject headings that in effect are the title of that work or the name of that author (and if a subject heading, this author name is formatted with the last name first, then first name, then usually followed by dates).
Tips For Searching The LAMP Database LITERARY REFERENCE CENTER PLUS
And So Toward Succeeding With Your ENG-1B (Ms. St. Peters) Assignments / Page 6 of 7

- Or, especially when searching for articles about a specific literary work or an author, **look for subject headings related to literary categories or themes and consider clicking on these to limit results to articles related to those categories or themes** – for example, subject headings like: short stories, criticism, books – reviews, characters & characteristics in literature, literary critiques, and then too those subject headings descriptive of various themes.

You often see many of these kinds of subject headings listed in this **SUBJECT: THESAURUS TERM** section for results from searches about a specific literary work or author.

**Looking At The Full Description & The Full Text Of An Article**

- Having retrieved articles that somewhere in their respective full descriptions have the keywords or phrases you searched on – for example, in the (2B) SEARCHING section above and its explanation of keyword searching on a LITERARY WORK or an AUTHOR.

- Then having refined/limited the results of a search by using the left-column **REFINE SEARCH** options;

- Now take time to review these results by scrolling up and down the list, looking for titles of articles most likely to give you information you need.

- Click on those titles – and as you do so, title by title, what results is the full description (bibliographic record) of that article, including:

  - The different fields or parts of a description – **AUTHORS, SOURCE, DOCUMENT TYPE, SUBJECT TERMS, etc.** – as you see these listed below the title of the article that’s at the top of this bibliographic record.

  - Benefit especially from the **ABSTRACT** field of a description because this abstract or summary of an article is often not just indicative but rather quite informative about what’s included in the article and so of help to you in deciding whether to read the entire article or not.

- **For the FULL TEXT of an article**

  - **If it’s in HTML format,** just scroll down below the full description of the article to see its full text; if you’ll see this full text article below its full description.

  - **If it’s in PDF [portable document format],** then at the top of the full description of the article and to the left, click on the link PDF.

    What eventually appears then (PDF formatted text can sometimes take a bit of time “to compile” or appear) is the full text of the article – and as you would see, **looking like a photocopy of the article online.**
USING INFORMATION YOU FIND WELL & WISELY

• This includes what you were doing in the section just above – that is,
  o Reviewing results by reading the respective full descriptions/bibliographic records of items on a result list to decide those most likely to give you information of help to you. Then – and even taking time to peruse the full text of those articles;
  o Then reading the full text of those articles and thinking critically about them toward making good and effective use of them in your presentation (paper, speech, etc.)

• But also included in “well and wise use” of information you find – and especially of those sources you actually make use of – is to cite theses sources according to some standard citation format, for example MLA [Modern Language Association] or APA [American Psychological Association].

Citing Articles Of Interest & Use

• Based on your review of an article’s full description/bibliographic record – including the ABSTRACT and even some quick perusal of the full text of the article (for those articles included in results limited to FULL TEXT) – then look to the right of this specific article’s full description/bibliographic screen to see a column headed TOOLS.

• TOOLS is a list of actions you can take with a given article – and so note especially CITE in this list and click on this.

• What appears in the main part of the screen is a small window labeled CITATION FORMATS above the article’s full description that you were just looking at.

• Note the scroll bar on the right side of this window – and use it to scroll down to MLA format, to then copy and paste this MLA citation to Word document for use in compiling your final Works Cited list.

• However, when preparing your final Works Cited list, be sure to take time to edit this copied/pasted citation so that it conforms to exact MLA citation guidelines – for example, double spaced, with hanging indentation, punctuated properly, and in Times New Roman font, 12 point.

• For help with this editing, ask your instructor or one of the librarians. Then too remember the very helpful OWL Purdue (Online Writing Laboratory at Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN) – here’s its website: https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/