**GETTING STARTED**

The "For Students" series, accessible in print or electronically through Artemis or GVRL databases, is a great starting point for most literature research projects. It includes introductory information including author biography, an overview of the work, themes, historical background, and some criticism. It's a small collection, so if your work isn't listed, just move on to Bloom’s or Literature Resource Center.

If you are having a difficult time finding any information, look for biographical information about the author. Information such as the author’s genre, time period, geographic location, ethnicity, and gender can help you locate additional resources.

**PRINT SOURCES, E-BOOKS, AND VIDEOS**

How to find print sources, e-books, and videos:

- Use the GIL catalog to locate physical books, print journals, and videos, e-books, and streaming videos.
- GIL-Find@GPC and GIL@GPC Classic are the catalogs for materials at Georgia Perimeter College libraries. They cover the same material, but are different tools for searching the collection. Most students find GIL-Find easier to use for searching by topic.
- GIL-Find UC and GIL Classic UC show materials at college and university libraries throughout Georgia.

Once you've entered your search terms in GIL Find or GIL UC, you can narrow your search by subject, type of resource, location, and other options.

For physical items, you can write down the call number to locate the item in the library, or request that the item be sent to a library closest to you.

Ebooks and streaming videos can be accessed through the catalog. These may require you to enter the appropriate passwords if you’re off campus.

**TIP:** In GIL-Find/GIL-Find UC you can text or email citation information about each item.

**Search Tips for Criticism**

- Search by the author's name and “criticism.” You may need to look in the index or table of contents for criticism on the work you’re researching.
- Search by work title for major works. You might include the author’s name also. For example, “Beloved” and “Morrison”
- For criticism and biographies, use the author’s name as a subject term. (The book is about this author, not by this author.) Try putting the author’s last name first, e.g.: Morrison, Toni.
- You might find information in sources that focus on the work’s genre or the author’s time period, geographical location, gender, etc., such as “Asian American authors” or “Racism in literature.”
- If you are getting too many results, try more specific search terms. Use the drop down boxes to narrow by subject.
- If you are not getting enough results, try less specific search terms and do a keyword search.

**E-books – Over 125,000 books on your computer!**

- Locate electronic books through the library catalogs, in GALILEO Discover, or by using e-book databases.
- Use any computer with an Internet connection. No e-book reader is required.

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**PASSWORDS**

No password is needed to use the library catalogs, but you will need your 900# and PIN to request materials and access your account.
DATABASES

DATABASE SEARCH TIPS

- DISCOVER GALILEO is the search box when you first log into GALILEO and on the library homepage. It searches many, but not all databases available through GPC as well as the GPC library catalog. To locate the best databases for Literature, go to Browse by Subjects, click on “Language, Language and Literary Criticism,” then click on “Literature and Literary Criticism.”
- All databases are available through GALILEO under “Databases A-Z”
- Commonly helpful search terms are your author’s name (try last name first), title of work, and criticism.
- Use quotation marks to search for a phrase, especially if it includes common words (e.g. “As You Like It”)
- To get more results, try fewer search terms, or connect a variety of search terms with the word “OR.”
- To get fewer or more specific results, enter your search terms as “Subject.” Try more specific search terms, or connect your search terms with the words “AND” or “NOT.”
- Click on “Help” or “Search tips” to find out more information about searching a specific database.

These databases are included in the DISCOVER search or you may search them individually.

**Academic Search Complete** — General database that includes newspapers, magazines, and academic journals as early as 1975, many in full text. (Use author as Subject)

**Literary Reference Center** — Full text criticism, articles, and biographies.

**MLA International Bibliography** — Arts and humanities journals from 1963 to present. Some are full text, most are indexed.

**eBooks on EBSCOhost** — Full text e-books in electronic form

**Academic eBooks on EBSCOHOST** — Full text e-books in electronic form

These databases are either not included in the DISCOVER search or are best searched individually.

**Artemis** — Full text criticism, articles, and biographies. Includes:
- **Literature Resource Center**
- **Gale Virtual Reference Library** — Full text of “For Students” series

**Bloom’s Literary Reference Online** — essays examining the lives and works of great writers throughout history and the world, and thousands of critical articles published by noted scholars

**JStor** — Academic Journals from date of first publication (Good source for older material)
- May limit to “Language and Literature” journals in Advanced Search
- Default search is full text.

**OneClick Digital** — Electronic audiobooks, including primary texts and criticism.

**Project Muse** — Full text articles from scholarly humanities, arts, and social sciences journals
- Search options include “title reviewed” (in dropdown box next to search term)

**Salem Literature** — The complete content of selected printed Salem Press's Critical Insights: Authors and Critical Insights: Works series.

NEED HELP?

Ask a Librarian!
depths.gpc.edu/library/ask.html