

# Comparative Literature

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A resource guide for the study of Comparative Literature.

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## Using Library of Congress Subject Headings to find literary criticism in BobCat

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What are subject headings?

Subject headings are words and phrases which constitute a "controlled vocabulary" to categorize books by subject field. Subject headings often indicate the contents of books in terms that their titles do not use. In online databases, subject headings are often referred to as descriptors, but they serve the same purpose in locating valuable resources. A "keyword" search will lead to results that contain those specific terms, which can add value to a search. However, since keywords can be found anywhere (author, notes, publisher, etc.), subject headings allow you to search by topic in a more focused way.

Use general subject headings to search a broad topic or more specific subject headings for a specific text, film, or play. You will find (more) headings specific to the subject category within the left-hand facets in our online catalog, BobCat. You can see subject headings on each item's detailed catalog page in BobCat.

Using subject headings to find literary criticism

Critical works are classified and sorted by author's name, dates of birth and death, and the subheading, Criticism and Interpretation. Here are some examples:

- **Achebe, Chinua -- Criticism and interpretation**
- **García Márquez, Gabriel, 1928- -- Criticism and interpretation**
- **Nabokov, Vladimir Vladimirovich, 1899-1977 -- Criticism and interpretation**

## Literary Criticism via General / Multi-Disciplinary databases

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- [Humanities Source](#)

Humanities Source includes full text access to journals. It combines various Humanities related databases, including the American Humanities Index.

- [JSTOR](#)

JSTOR provides access to scholarly journals, primarily in the humanities and social sciences. In addition to journal articles, users can access book chapters, ebooks, and primary source documents.

- [Periodicals Archive Online](#)

Provides full-text and full-image access to hundreds of journals published in the arts, humanities, social sciences, and areas of general popular interest. Each periodical is covered back to its first issue, regardless of when it began publication. International in scope, PAO covers periodicals in a number of Western languages.

- [Project Muse](#)  

Provides full-text access to high quality humanities, arts, and social sciences journals from scholarly publishers.

- [ProQuest Central](#)

ProQuest Central is a large, multidisciplinary database with over 11,000 titles, with over 8,000 titles in full-text. It serves as the central resource for researchers at all levels in all markets. Over 160 subjects areas are covered extensively in this product including business and economics, health and medical, news and world affairs, technology, social sciences and more.

## Literary Criticism via Subject Specific databases

- [Annual Bibliography of English Language and Literature \(ABELL\)](#)

The Annual Bibliography of English Language and Literature (ABELL) indexes scholarship in the fields of English language and literature, folklore, and English-language film and television studies.

- [Literature Criticism Online](#)

Literature Criticism Online includes the contents of several multidisciplinary series, including Contemporary Literary Criticism and Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism. The collection includes biographical essays and selected literary criticism for authors from the classical period to the present day.

- [Literature Online \(LION\)](#)

Literature Online includes full text of literary works in English from the Middle Ages to the twentieth century. It also includes the Annual Bibliography of English Language and Literature, together with biographic and bibliographic reference materials for each author.

A fully searchable library of more than 350,000 works of English and American poetry, drama and prose. LION is the single most extensive and wide-ranging online collection of English and American literature. Resources included in this resource are: Bibliographies Biographies Columbia Companion to the 20th Century American Short Story Columbia Dictionary of Modern European Literature Columbia Dictionary of Modern Literary and Cultural Criticism Concise Oxford Companion to English Literature Concise Oxford Dictionary of Literary Terms Encyclopedia of African Literature Encyclopedia of American Poetry: The Nineteenth Century Encyclopedia of Latin American and Caribbean Literature, 1900-2003 Encyclopedia of Linguistics (2 vols.) Encyclopedia of the Novel Handbook of African American Literature New Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics Oxford Companion to Irish Literature Penguin Classics Introductions Routledge Encyclopedia of Narrative Theory Routledge Encyclopedia of Post-Colonial Literatures in English (2nd Edition)

- [Literature Resource Center](#)

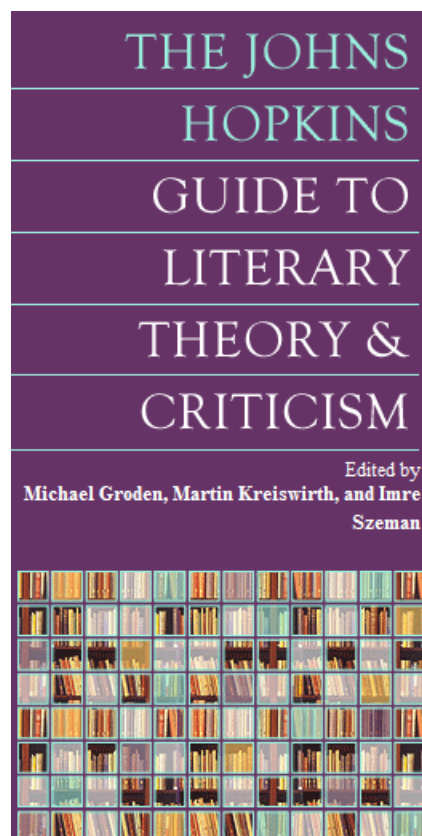
Literature Resource Center offers biographical and other background information for research on literary topics, authors, and their works. Its coverage includes all genres and disciplines, all time periods, and all regions of the world. Literature Resource Center's content comes from the Dictionary of Literary Biography, Contemporary Authors, Contemporary Literary Criticism, and more, including full text of selected poems, plays, and short stories.

- [MLA International Bibliography \(MLAIB\)](#)  

The MLA International Bibliography provides bibliographic records for books, book chapters, journal articles, and dissertations published in the fields of modern languages, literatures, folklore, and linguistics. Full text is available for some articles. The MLAIB covers items published from around 1920 to the present.

- [Times Literary Supplement Historical Archive \(TLS\)](#)

The Times Literary Supplement Historical Archive contains every page of every copy of the Times Literary Supplement (TLS) published from 1902 to 2011. The database is searchable by author or contributor; the identities of the contributors to the TLS who were published anonymously until 1974 are disclosed for the first time and augmented by biographical sketches.



The Johns Hopkins Guide to Literary Theory & Criticism is an indispensable resource for scholars and students of literary theory and discourse. Presents a comprehensive historical survey of the field's most important figures, schools, and movements.

- [Johns Hopkins Guide to Literary Theory & Criticism](#)

### Database search tips

Here are some tips for better search results in databases.

This usage works on *most* databases, but check 'Help' sections for supported search syntax.

#### Boolean: (using operators: and, or, not)

- **mother AND father** searches for occurrences of both words within scope defined.
- **mother OR father** searches for one or all, but both are not required.
- **mother NOT father** searches for occurrences of the word 'mother' without use of the word 'father.'
- **(mother NOT father) AND god** searches for occurrences of the word 'mother' without use of the word 'father,' then also requires the word 'god.'

#### Truncation:

**art\*** (asterisk as truncation character) searches for art, arts, artistic, artful, etc.

#### Wildcard:

**m?n** (question mark as wildcard character) searches for man and men.

Keywords: Imagination, literature, criticism, image, symbol, Comparative Literature. Contents. In this chapter, I examine how contemporary literary criticism (in particular, comparatist criticism) examines the question of the relationship between literature and the imagination. Different approaches to the notion of "literary imagination" within the Comparative Literature tradition may then be identified.

1. Introduction. According to Seamus Heaney, poetry is the "imagination pressing back against the pressure of reality": the imagination is at the heart of poetical endeavour. The characterization of literary imagination is however a complex process, which calls on various extr Literature. Simhachalam Thamarana (Research Scholar). Department of English, Andhra University. Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. India. Abstract: A brief introduction to history of criticism is to be given at the outset. Then the indication of. the word „Literary Criticism“ along with the origin and development of Literary Criticism has. works is called as Literary Criticism. From the earliest days of literary history, criticism has. been a major aspect of literary theory and practice. A backward glance over the history of. criticism in the light of many theories is useful. The mimetic theory is characteristic of the. criticism of the classical age, with Aristotle as its great expounder. Horace introduced the. Hence, literary criticism or literary analysis can be defined as, "An informed analysis and evaluation of a piece of literature". OR. "A written study, evaluation and interpretation of a work of literature". The structural critical analysis studies symmetry, trends and patterns for a particular society or for a societal comparative analysis. of various societies. underlying patterns of symmetry which are held to be common to all societies. Corroboration is drawn from sociology and anthropology, and the study techniques categorize and evaluate the work in larger context rather than assessing its quality alone. Literary criticism (or literary studies) is the study, evaluation, and interpretation of literature. Modern literary criticism is often influenced by literary theory, which is the philosophical discussion of literature's goals and methods. Though the two activities are closely related, literary critics are not always, and have not always been, theorists. Whether or not literary criticism should be considered a separate field of inquiry from literary theory, or conversely from book reviewing, is a