Library Resources and Research Techniques for Theater 211A

Databases: Provide access to published material in magazines, journals, newspapers, and other sources. The UMW Library subscribes to these databases and they are part of the “Deep Web,” as opposed to the “Surface Web” or “Free Web.”

Finding the Theatre and Dance Subject Guide

- Click on “Guides” in the blue tab on the Library home page, http://libraries.umw.edu, or click on “Research Guides” in the “Get Help” section.
  - Click on “Theatre and Dance” from the menu (http://libguides.umw.edu/theadanc).

Finding Background Material (subject encyclopedias and other reference works)

- Define and narrow your topic; provide background material.
- Provide lists of other significant resources (that is, bibliographies).
- See UMW Libraries Theatre and Dance web page for a list of some useful titles. Reference works related to classical drama include:
  - Critical Survey of Drama, 8 vols., authors and essays (REFB PN 1625 .C68 2003)

Finding Books

- Find books by author (last name first), title, subject headings (approved words and phrases that describe a topic), or just by typing words “anywhere.”
- Try a Browse Search. For example:
  - horror
- Books are shelved by call number: A – L (third floor) and M – Z (second floor).
- Reference books are on the first floor near the Reference Desk.

Citing Your Sources

- Provides links to guides to specific citation styles.
- Remember to check your citations using the UMW citation guides!
Finding Articles

- Links to databases and other resources that provide abstracts of articles (summaries) and full-text articles are available in the “Locating Articles” section of the UMW Libraries Theatre and Dance subject guide (http://libguides.umw.edu/thea). For example, see:

*Academic Search Complete* (coverage varies; as far back as the 1880s to date)
- Includes thousands of full-text academic journals and periodicals in a wide variety of disciplines.
- *Important:* Can click on “Choose Databases” to add additional databases, such as *Humanities Full Text, Humanities International Complete, Humanities and Social Sciences Index Retrospective, 1907-1984, MasterFILE Premier,* and *OmniFile Full Text Mega.*
- Can also choose all the databases that are provided by this particular publisher.

*Gale Literary Sources* (coverage varies)
- A full-text resource offering biographical and bibliographical information on living and deceased worldwide authors and their works.
- An advanced search enables users to construct searches using a variety of criteria.
  - For a title of a work, use “Name of Work” from the drop-down menu.
  - For an author, use “Person By or About” from the drop-down menu.
    - Scroll down or see right column for “content types” (biographies, literature criticism, topic and work overviews, etc.).
  - You can add a word or phrase to focus your search.

Finding Books and Articles

*Quest*
- A search tool that allows users to find print and online resources at UMW Libraries through a single interface.
- Click on “Quest” from Library home page, http://libraries.umw.edu.
- A search in Quest will locate:
  - Books, e-books, articles, DVDs, and much more.

Reviewing Your Research

- See the “Reviewing Your Research” tab on the UMW Libraries Theatre and Dance subject guide (http://libguides.umw.edu/thea).

Jack Bales, 10/2017
115 Simpson Library
jbales@umw.edu