



Resources for FYSP 109 “Odysseys and Identities”
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REFERENCE WORKS – FINDING OVERVIEW AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Homer Encyclopedia. Chichester, West Sussex, UK: Wiley-Blackwell, 2011.
e-book, connect from OBIS

The Oxford Classical Dictionary. 4th ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012.
e-book, connect from OBIS

Encyclopedia of Traditional Epics. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 1994.
Main Reference PN56.E65 E64 1994

Dictionary of Literary Themes and Motifs. New York: Greenwood Press, 1988.
Main Reference PN43.D48 1988 (2 vols.)

FINDING BOOKS AND OTHER LIBRARY MATERIALS

OBIS is the Oberlin College Library’s online catalog; it lists most library materials. Online borrowing is available through the **OhioLINK Library Catalog**, which combines the holdings of 120 libraries at Ohio colleges and universities, and through **SearchOhio**, which does the same for 28 Ohio public library systems. All three catalogs are searchable by **Author** or **Title** for a specific author or work, or by **Subject Heading** or **Keyword** for works about a topic, person, place, etc.

Potentially useful subject headings:

Odysseus (Greek mythology)
Epic literature
Epic poetry

☆ **Note:** *authors and their works can be searched as subjects, too:*
Homer
Homer. *Odyssey*.

🔍 **Exercise: search OBIS for books**

1. Start at library home page, <http://www.oberlin.edu/library>
2. Select the CATALOG tab, change the drop-down search option to Subject; search: homer
3. Scroll down and select the heading “Homer -- Characters -- Penelope”

USING DATABASES TO FIND ARTICLES IN SCHOLARLY JOURNALS

Connect from Databases tab on the Library home page search box, or use the Quick Links drop-down menu

🔍 To determine if the library has a particular journal, Use “360 Link to Full Text” or “Find It!” where available in research databases, or search **Journal Finder** from Library home page or the Quick Links pull-down menu

Academic Search Complete

Indexes articles from general and academic periodicals in all disciplines; over 80% of the journals indexed are peer-reviewed; almost 60% include full text

L'Année Philologique

Indexes articles in journals, collections, and conference proceedings covering all aspects of Greek and Roman civilization.

Film & Television Literature Index

Index to journals, magazines, and selected books covering all aspects of film and television research, including theory, criticism, production, cinematography, technical aspects, and reviews.

MLA International Bibliography

Indexes books and periodical articles in world literature, folklore, and modern language

Exercise: search *Academic Search Complete* for scholarly journal articles

1. Start at library home page, <http://www.oberlin.edu/library>
2. Choose the Databases tab; under the “by subject” drop-down search option, choose Any Subject/Multidisciplinary; find and select Academic Search Complete
3. In box 1 enter search terms for the first concept, each connected by “or”
4. In box 2 enter search terms for the second concept, each connected by “or,” and click Search
5. Refine results by choosing “Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals”

DATABASES FOR FINDING ARTICLES AND REVIEWS IN POPULAR SOURCES

MasterFILE Premier

Indexes general, mass market, and consumer-oriented magazines covering nearly all subjects

Newspaper Source

Full text of stories from regional, national, and international newspapers, plus television and radio news transcripts

SUMMON – first (and default) tab on library home page search box

- searches across the spectrum of library content: books, scholarly articles, newspapers, data, audio, video, images, government documents, and more; searches many, *but not all*, library resources
- draws from OBIS, OhioLINK, many full text and article indexing databases, and digital repositories from colleges, universities, research centers, and other open-access archives
- Subject-specific databases are generally better for complex or comprehensive searches
- OBIS and OhioLINK are generally better for finding books
- if links don’t lead to full text, be persistent or ask for help; we probably *do* have access

Exercise: use appropriate databases discussed in class today to search for the following information about Yan Martel’s *Life of Pi*:

- Identify an article of literary criticism about the book from a scholarly journal
- Identify a book review from a popular magazine or a newspaper

CITING YOUR SOURCES

MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers. 8th ed. New York: Modern Language Association of America, 2016.

Main Reference LB2369 .G53 2016


Purdue Online Writing Lab (aka the OWL). Maintained by Purdue University.

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>

See the Research and Citation section for examples of how to cite resources using APA, MLA, and Chicago citation styles.

HOW TO GET MATERIALS NOT AVAILABLE AT OBERLIN

OhioLINK/SearchOhio

- how it works: 115 Ohio library systems lend materials (primarily books) to each other
 -  *does not include delivery of journal articles – see section below on ILL*
- to request: do-it-yourself online searching and requesting

- Barcode is the number on the back of your OCID (*not* your T-number)
- how long it takes: allow 3-4 business days
- loan period: 3 weeks + up to 6 three-week renewals if item has not been requested by someone else

Interlibrary Loan (ILL or ILLiad)

- use for: articles in journals not available at Oberlin, books not available from OhioLINK
- how it works: libraries lend materials to each other; journal articles are usually sent as scanned pdfs
- to request: select "ILLiad/Interlibrary Loan" from the Quick Links menu on the Library's home page; set up an account; enter and track ILL requests online
- how long it takes: allow 1-2 weeks, though many articles arrive much more quickly
- loan period: journal articles are yours to keep; loan period for books varies

HOW TO GET RESEARCH HELP AT THE LIBRARY

Librarians are available to assist with your research projects:

- ✓ *Help focus and define research topics*
- ✓ *Find information for papers and projects*
- ✓ *Locate books, journal articles, and other library materials*
- ✓ *Develop effective search strategies for online databases*
- ✓ *Identify useful web sites and internet resources*
- ✓ *Evaluate the quality of web sites and other information sources*
- ✓ *Track down facts and statistical data*
- ✓ *Learn how to use the library and its resources*

Drop-in help at the Research Desk. Just stop by and tell us what you need

Monday–Thursday: 10am–noon, 1–5pm, & 7pm–midnight
 Friday: 10am–noon & 1–5pm
 Weekend: Sat.: 2–4 pm, Sunday: 1–5pm & 7 pm–midnight

IM. Chat online with a member of Oberlin's reference staff (ObieRef) – hours same as above

Phone. 440-775-5031 – hours same as above

Email. reference@oberlin.edu – any time

Research appointment. Sign up online from the library home page