MLA International Bibliography

Welcome to the MLA International Bibliography Database Information Screen! Browse the topics listed below to find what you are looking for:

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About the Database

MLA International Bibliography is an index of journal articles, books and dissertations. Produced by the Modern Language Association, the electronic version of the Bibliography dates back to 1963 and contains over 1.5 million citations from more than 4,400 journals and series and 1,000 book publishers. Coverage is international and subjects include literature, language and linguistics, folklore, literary theory & criticism, dramatic arts, as well as the historical aspects of printing and publishing. Listings on rhetoric and composition and the history, theory and practice of teaching language and literature are also included. In addition, the MLA Directory of Periodicals and the association's proprietary thesaurus used to assign descriptors to each record in the Bibliography are also included. Examples of titles offered in MLA International Bibliography include: Journal of International Folklore, Journal of English and German Philology, Journal of Linguistics, Journal of Popular Film and Television, Language and Communication, Language Teaching Research, Modern Language Journal, etc.

The default sort for this database is the following: Descending Date Published, Journal, Start Page then Title. Other sort options include Author and Source.

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Searching Tips

There are a number of helpful tips and hints you can use to improve your search results. You can choose one or more searching tools that are described below. For example, you can use Boolean operators; control the search order; or limit the search to a specific title. Note: Stopwords are commonly used words such as articles, pronouns, and prepositions. These words are not indexed for searching in the database. For example, 'the', 'but', and 'or' are stopwords. When a stopword is used in a query, any single word or no word is retrieved in place of the stopword.

Boolean Operators

Sometimes a search can be overly general (results equal too many hits) or overly specific (results equal too few hits). To fine-tune your search, you can use AND, OR, and NOT operators to link your search words together. These operators will help you narrow or broaden your search to better express the terms you are looking for and to retrieve the exact information you need quickly.

USING THE "AND" OPERATOR: If you have a search term that is too general, you can append several terms together using "AND". By stringing key terms together, you can further define your search and reduce the number of results. Note: Unless you define a specific search field, the result list will contain references where all your search terms are located in either the citation or the full display.

• For example, type drama AND tragedy to find results that reference drama and tragedy.

USING THE "OR" OPERATOR: In order to broaden a search, you can link terms together by using the "OR" operator. By using "OR" to link your terms together you can find documents on many topics. Linked by this operator, your words are searched simultaneously and independently of each other.
For example, type drama AND tragedy OR satire to find results that contain either "drama" and "tragedy", or the term "satire".

USING THE "NOT" OPERATOR: In order to narrow a search, you can link words together by using the "NOT" operator. This operator will help you to filter out specific topics you do not wish included as part of your search.

- Type: drama OR tragedy NOT satire to find results that contain the terms "drama" or "tragedy", but not the term "satire".
- To further define your results, type: drama AND tragedy AND satire to constrict the search to include all terms linked by the "AND" operator.

Parentheses also may be used to control a search query. Without parentheses, a search is executed using "AND" operations first, then others from left to right. Words that you enclose in parentheses are searched first. Why is this important? Parentheses allow you to control and define the way the search will be executed. The left phrase in parentheses is searched first; then based upon those results the second phrase in parentheses is searched.

Generalized Search: drama or play and tragedy or satire
Focused Search: (drama or play) and (tragedy or satire)
In the first example, the search will retrieve all drama, all play with tragedy as well as satire.
In the second example, we have used the parentheses to control our query to only find titles about drama or play specifically referencing tragedy or satire.

Searchable Fields

The default fields for unqualified searches consist of the following: Title, Author, Source, ISSN or ISBN, Series, General Subject Areas, Subject Terms, Document Information, Electronic Access and Accession Number.
The following list will help you locate detailed information referenced in this database as a field.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tag</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AN</td>
<td>Accession Number</td>
<td>AN 2001873053</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[Phrase indexed]</td>
<td>Searches the exact 10-digit accession number of a record.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AR</td>
<td>Author [Exact]</td>
<td>AR Roscoe, Jane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[Phrase Indexed]</td>
<td>Searches the last name followed by first name, and sometimes middle initial or name, in the Author field.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AU</td>
<td>Author</td>
<td>AU Ratkai, Arpad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[Word Indexed]</td>
<td>Searches for keywords in a record's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field</td>
<td>Value</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BT</td>
<td>Collection Title</td>
<td>BT The Selected Works of George Gerbner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DE</td>
<td>Descriptors</td>
<td>DE teaching of literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[Phrase Indexed]</td>
<td>Searches for exact matches of assigned subjects, including specific literature, specific language, folklore topic, linguistic topic, general literature topic, time, genre, subject author, media, and location.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DS</td>
<td>Dissertation Info</td>
<td>DS Bowling Green State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[Word Indexed]</td>
<td>Searches for keywords in the dissertation abstract number, the institution at which the degree was earned, and the year the degree was earned.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DT</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>DT 20001201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[Date Indexed]</td>
<td>Searches for the date of a record's publication in the format of CCYYMMDD.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DX</td>
<td>Exclude Dissertation Abstracts</td>
<td>DX Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[Phrase Indexed]</td>
<td>Searches for records that are not dissertation abstract publication types. The value searched for is &quot;Y&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ED</td>
<td>Editors</td>
<td>ED Endresen, Rolf Theil</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Searches for keywords in a record's editors fields.


or

Searches for the exact match of a record's ISBN.

**IS**  ISSN (International Standard Serial Number) IS 1062-4783

Searches for the exact match of a record's ISSN.

**IP**  Issue IP 2

Searches for a publication's issue number.

**JN**  Journal Title JN Arab Journal for the Humanities

Searches for the exact match of a record's journal title.

**LA**  Language LA French

Searches for the language in which a record was published.

**NT**  Notes NT Hungarian Association of Applied Linguistics

Searches for keywords in the title page notes, bibliographic notes, and electronic format fields.

**PB**  Publication Info PB Knopf

Searches for keywords in a record's publisher, and publication location.
fields.

**PD** Publication Date

PD 2001 winter

[Word Indexed]

Searches for keywords in a record's publication date. The format of the date does not adhere to any convention and may include seasons.

**PG** Pages

PG 22-27

[Word Indexed]

Searches for a record's page number, or range of page numbers in the source of publication.

**PT** Publication Type

PT Book Collection

[Phrase Indexed]

Searches exact record type, of the document. Values consist of the following:

- Book
- Book Article
- Book Collection
- Dissertation Abstract
- Journal Article

**PY** Publication Year

PY 1999

[Date Indexed]

Searches for a record's year of publication in the format of CCYY.

**SE** Series

SE Comparative History of Literatures in European Languages

[Word Indexed]

Searches keywords in the book series field.

**SO** Journal Title

SO Quadrant

[Word Indexed]

Searches for keywords in the journal
title or journal abbreviation field.

SP Start Page SP 25
[Phrase Indexed]
Searches for an exact match of a record's start page in the source of publication.

SQ Sequence Number SQ 2001-2-5508
[Word Indexed]
Searches for a record's sequence number which consists of the bibliography year, volume, and item number. Order records do not include volume characters. Records may have multiple sequence numbers, as it may have been published in several documents.

SU Subject SU African American writers
[Word Indexed]
Searches for keywords in a record's assigned subjects, including specific literature, specific language, folklore topic, linguistic topic, general literature topic, time, genre, subject author, author, media, and location.

TI Record Title TI Remembering James McAuley
[Word Indexed]
Searches keywords in a record's Title field

UD Update Code UD 198201
[Number Indexed] or Searches for exact match of a record's update code, which consists of bibliography year and number of update in the format of YYYYNN. Update Codes can also be searched in ranges.
UR   Universal Resource Locator (URL)   http://www.ade.org/

Searches for keywords in the URL field of the electronic publisher.

VI   Volume   VI 8

Searches for a publication's volume number.

Definition of Fields

The following table explains the contents of each field in a record's detailed display (not all fields are listed in every record).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Indicates the title of the record.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Author(s)</td>
<td>Indicates the author(s) of the record.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source</td>
<td>Displays the journal title, place of publication, journal abbreviation, publication date, volume, issue, and pagination for journals. For books or book collections the pagination, editor(s), book title, publication location, publisher, and publication date is displayed. If the record is a dissertation abstract, the institution granting the degree, the year the degree was granted, and the dissertation abstract number is displayed. May also include notes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISSN</td>
<td>Displays the International Standard Serial Number of the record's publication.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISBN</td>
<td>Displays the International Standard Book Number of the record's publication.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Series</td>
<td>Displays the book series information, including book series title, abbreviation, and number.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
General Subject     Lists the record's general subject descriptors, such as Subject Literature, Areas Subject Language, Folklore Topic, Linguistics Topic, Literature Topic, Time, Genre, Primary Subject Author, Primary Subject Work, Media, and Location.

Subject Terms       Lists the record's subject additional descriptors and their modifiers.

Document           Lists various information relating to the document, such as Publication Information Type, Language of Publication, Update Code, and Sequence Numbers.

Electronic Access   Displays the publisher's, and sometimes the electronic document's, URL. May include access note.

Accession          A unique 10-digit number identifying the record.

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Thesaurus Authority File

The Thesaurus authority file is a controlled vocabulary thesaurus that assists in more effectively searching the MLA database. Subject headings, as well as cross-references terms, assist in finding the most appropriate subject heading. You can browse this list alphabetically, or as Relevancy Ranked (keyword search).

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Names as Subjects Authority File

The Names as Subjects authority file is an alphabetical, controlled list of the name(s), or group name(s) of figures used as subjects in this database. You can browse this list alphabetically, or as Relevancy Ranked (keyword search).

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MLA Directory of Periodicals Authority File

The MLA Directory of Periodicals authority file is an alphabetical list of publication titles of serials indexed by the MLA. You can browse this list alphabetically, or as Relevancy Ranked (keyword search).

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