

### *Library Catalog*

Use VIRGO (<http://virgo.lib.virginia.edu>) to:

- Find library-owned materials, including books, manuscripts, CDs and DVDs
- Renew materials, place a recall, request a purchase or an interlibrary loan

#### **Sample searches:**

joyce james [author]

'poetic designs' [title]

lyric poetry [subject]

Truncation: **poet\$** for poetry, poetic, poetics, etc.

Booleans: **black or 'african american'**

**shakespeare and ado and criticism**

VIRGObeta (<http://virgobeta.lib.virginia.edu>) is a new version of the catalog that features better relevance ranking and faceted browsing. It will eventually replace the current VIRGO.

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### *Indexes of Scholarly Journal Articles*

**[MLA International Bibliography \[MLAIB\]](#)**: The standard resource for finding scholarly journal articles about languages and literature. Coverage goes back to the 1920s.

**[Annual Bibliography of English Language and Literature \[ABELL\]](#)**: A good supplement to the MLAIB, focused exclusively on English language and literature. Includes reviews of scholarly works (unlike the MLAIB).

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### *Digital Journal Archives*

**[JSTOR](#)**: Digital archive of core scholarly journals in all disciplines. Articles typically become available 3-5 years after first publication.

**[Project Muse](#)**: Full text of core scholarly journals in the humanities and social sciences, from the late 1990s to the present.

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### *All-Purpose Databases*

**[Literature Resource Center](#)**: A great place to begin research on a specific author. Includes full-text articles from the Dictionary of Literary Biography and other biographical and critical compilations about authors, along with citations from MLAIB and some full-text articles.

**[Literature Online \(LION\)](#)** has some of the same resources as LRC, along with a surprisingly complete collection of full-text poetry, prose, and drama through the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. You can limit your searches by date, gender, ethnicity, or literary movement.

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## Searchable Databases of Literary Works

[Early English Books Online \[EEBO\]](#) contains bibliographic records, page images, and (in some cases) transcriptions of virtually every work printed in the UK from 1473-1700, literary or otherwise.

[Eighteenth Century Collections Online \[ECCO\]](#) picks up where EEBO leaves off, containing “every significant English-language and foreign-language title printed in Great Britain” during the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

[Early American Imprints](#) is the American equivalent of EEBO and ECCO, containing complete bibliographical citations and page images of American imprints from 1639-1800.

[Literature Online](#) (*see above*) contains a large collection of full-text poetry, prose, and drama.

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## Historical Newspapers and Journals

[ProQuest Historical Newspapers](#): Use this database to find newspaper articles more than 20 years old. It contains full text of major US newspapers (NY Times, Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, Chicago Tribune) from their initial dates of publication (as early as 1851).

[The Times Digital Archive](#): Provides searchable full text content of the London Times from 1785-1985, including advertisements.

[Periodicals Index Online](#): Indexes the contents of scholarly and popular journals in the humanities and social sciences, mainly from the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century. Some full-text articles are available via links to JSTOR or to a companion database, [Periodicals Archive Online](#).

[American Periodicals Series](#): Full text of 1000+ journals published in the U.S. from 1740-1900.

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## Book Reviews

In addition to ABELL, [Academic Search Complete](#) is a good source of reviews of scholarly works, as is [Google Scholar](#).

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## Dissertations

[Dissertations & Theses: Full Text](#): Lists dissertations and some master’s theses from as early as 1861. All entries since 1980 include an abstract, and all entries since 1997 are available in full text as PDFs. Can be searched by author name, title, institution, department, advisor, etc.

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## Helpful URLs

Ask a Librarian (phone, email, IM): <http://www2.lib.virginia.edu/askalibrarian/>  
English Subject Guide: <http://guides.lib.virginia.edu/English>  
Accessing Databases from Off Grounds: <http://www2.lib.virginia.edu/tools/offgrounds.html>  
RefWorks (citation management software): <http://www.refworks.com>

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– last updated 8/18/09 –

<http://www2.lib.virginia.edu/guides/english/ENCR8100-2009.pdf>