

How To



Locate

Booth Library
Eastern Illinois University

Play Criticism

To Find Definitions of dramatic terms, consult:

- *Drama Dictionary*.....Ref. PN 1625 .H64 1988
- *Reader's Encyclopedia of World Drama*.....Ref. PN 1625 .G3 1969
Contains facts on drama as literature.
- *Modern World Drama*..... Ref. PN 1851 .M36 1972X
An alphabetical listing of plays, playwrights, and technical drama terms from the 19th century to the present.
- *Major Modern Dramatists*Ref. PN 1861 .M27 1984
Contains excerpts from articles on playwrights, including American, British, Irish, German, Austrian, and Swiss dramatists.

To Find Plot information, consult:

- *Best Plays*.....Ref. PN 2266 .A2 B43X
Annual volumn describing the best plays produced on and off Broadway.
- *Book of 1,000 Plays*.....Ref. PN 6112.5 .F54 1989
Contains short plot synopses of 1,000 of the most popular American and British plays.
- *A Digest of 500 Plays*.....Ref. PN 6112.5 .S42
Contains plot outlines of 500 plays, arranged by literary time period, from Greek plays through the 20th century.
- *20th Century Plays in Synopsis*.....Ref. PN 6112.5 .S68
Contains plot outlines and includes brief biographical information on playwrights.

To Find Author information, consult:

- *Dictionary of Literary Biography*.....Ref. PN 451 .D53X
- *Contemporary Authors*..... Ref. PN 777 .C57X
- *British Playwrights, 1880-1995*.....Ref. PR 736 .B7 1996
Alphabetical list of British playwrights, with each entry containing biographical information, list of plays, brief commentary, assessment of career, and bibliography

Please refer to "Collection Location Guide" for Location of all Materials

To Find Sources containing commentary on authors and their work:

- *British and Irish Women Dramatists Since 1958*.....Ref. PR 739 .F45 B75 1993
A critical handbook discussing trends in British women's drama writing since the late 1950s.
- *Contemporary Literary Criticism*.....Ref. PN 771 .C59
- *Drama Criticism*.....Ref. PN 1625 .D72x
- *Literature Criticism from 1400-1800*.....Ref. PN 86. L56
- *Masterplots* (CD-ROM)..... Ask at Reference Desk
- *Nineteenth Century Literature Criticism*.....Ref. PN 761 .N56
- *Shakespearean Criticism*.....Ref. PR 2965 .S44
- *Twentieth Century Literary Criticism*.....Ref. PN 771 .G27

To Find Citations of critical articles about authors and works:

Check the Periodical List to find call numbers for journals owned by Booth Library.

- *MLA International Bibliography*.....Online and Ref. Z 7006 .M64
- *European Drama Criticism*.....Ref. Z 5781 .P2
A source book listing critical writings about representative European plays. Articles listed are only concerned with the play as a whole or with an important part of it.
- *American Women Playwrights 1964-1989*.....Ref. Z 1231 .D7 G38 1993
This research guide and annotated bibliography gives citations of general articles about women playwrights and feminist theater. Individual playwrights are listed alphabetically, along with list of plays, collections that contain the plays, and citations of critical reviews.
- *Contemporary African-American Female Playwrights*
.....Ref. Z 1229 .N39 W55 1998
An annotated bibliography that gives citations for general reference works and lists individual dramatists, along with collections that contain their plays, and citations for scholarly criticism.