

## Theatre History

### Web Addresses you'll need:

- Clark State Library: [lib2.clarkstate.edu](http://lib2.clarkstate.edu)
- Clark State Library Catalog: [library.clarkstate.edu/search](http://library.clarkstate.edu/search)
- OhioLINK: [www.ohiolink.edu](http://www.ohiolink.edu)
- OhioLINK E-Journal Finder: [www.ohiolink.edu/resources/ejournals.php](http://www.ohiolink.edu/resources/ejournals.php)

**Choose a play, choose a playwright:** It's always a good bet if you choose someone or a play that you're interested in. On the other hand, if you choose a play with which you're not familiar, you might end up learning even more. Just as in any other subject area, if you choose a play that has a lot written about it, it's probably easier to research than a very obscure play that was only performed off-off-Broadway in 1962. If it's a "classic" and has been staged over a period of several centuries, you'll have a rich vein to mine, in all probability.

### Locating Articles Using Online Databases

To search within a database for journals or information on a subject:

- Click on Explore OhioLINK Databases > By Subject.
- Choose the subject area that you would like to search, such as Humanities
- Click on the title of the database to which you wish to connect.
- Enter your search terms or use subject categories.

You can also explore OhioLINK Databases by name. Here are a few databases which include theatre and drama information and criticism:

- *Academic Search Premier* – Good for general articles in many subject areas.
- *Humanities Abstracts*- Articles on theatre, drama, literature, and more...
- *America: History and Life* – Here you can find articles on U.S. & Canadian history and culture.
- *Encyclopaedia Britannica Online* - Depending on your play, you'll find an encyclopedia article, magazine articles and websites, and even book suggestions.

### Finding Photographs in OhioLINK:

From OhioLINK > Explore OhioLINK Databases by Name, choose any of these:

- *AP Photo Archive* – Photographs from the Associated Press
- *Digital Media Center* – Numerous collections of artwork,
- *Digital Video Collection* – Includes almost 1,000 full-length films from Films for the Humanities

### Books and Videos:

Borrow them through the OhioLINK Library Catalog

Hint: The Clark State library has a limited collection of plays. It's rare, although not impossible, not to be able to borrow a play through the OhioLINK Library Catalog.

You can also find books *about* plays and playwrights, including criticism, productions, staging, etc.

- For example: want to know how the Ohio State theatre department staged Sheridan's *The Rivals*?
- Here's how...In the OhioLINK Library Catalog click on Subject. Type the rivals and follow the subject links.
- Want to watch a video of Sheridan's *School for Scandal*?
- Do a title search and then limit by Projected Medium: All (this will include videocassettes and videodiscs).

### Play Reviews

Newspaper sources or magazines are sources for play reviews. Try the following OhioLINK Databases:

- |   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| • <i>LexisNexis Academic</i>                  | <i>Newspaper Source</i>        |
| • <i>Newsbank</i>                             | <i>Academic Search Premier</i> |
| • <i>Arts &amp; Humanities Citation Index</i> | <i>Humanities Abstracts</i>    |

### Websites

The *Librarian's Index to the Internet* ([lii.org](http://lii.org)) or the *Internet Public Library* ([www.ipl.org](http://www.ipl.org)) are great websites to search for theatre resources online. These have evaluated sites that have been selected for their content.

Some other great websites to check out are:

- Theatre Library. Don't miss the Plays and Playwrights link.  
[www.theatrelibrary.org/links/index.html](http://www.theatrelibrary.org/links/index.html)
- World Wide Web Virtual Library: Theatre and Drama  
[www.vl-theatre.com/](http://www.vl-theatre.com/)

### Plays and Books Online Full Text:

- **netLibrary** is OhioLINK's resource for online full text books. For theatre topics check the public books box. You can print from this site, but only a page at a time.
- ***Editions and Adaptations of Shakespeare*** contains the full text of 11 editions of Shakespeare's work.
- ***English Prose Drama*** includes the full text of over 1800 plays written in prose for the stage, from the Renaissance to the end of the 19th century.
- ***English Verse Drama*** contains more than 2,200 works by over 500 named authors and over 300 anonymous works, from the Shrewsbury Fragments of the late thirteenth century through the Elizabethan and Jacobean periods to the end of the nineteenth century.