

## Finding Literature Criticism in the EBSCO Databases

Learn how to search MLA International Bibliography and cross search additional databases.

From the library homepage choose the databases tab. Search for MLA International Bibliography. As you can see, this EBSCO database searches for journal articles, books, and dissertations and it's produced by the Modern Language Association.

I'll demonstrate an advanced search. Type your author's name, last name followed by first. Select the subject field because in this case Nathaniel Hawthorne is the subject of the articles you'll be reading. He's not the author of those articles. Type the title of the play, the poem, or the short story that you're researching. In this case, Young Goodman Brown. Click search and hundreds of language and literature journals will be searched for your topic. The search yielded one hundred and thirty three book reviews, articles, and dissertations on this topic.

What's nice about EBSCO is that you can cross search additional databases to yield more results. Academic Search Complete is a nice multidisciplinary database that may have few articles on your topic. If your piece has spiritual overtones select ATLA Religion Database. Young Goodman Brown does, so I'm going to be selecting that one. Literary Reference Center Plus is another good choice.

Choose ok to add those databases. We definitely got more results that time. Your filters on the left let you know where everything is coming from. You have a hundred and thirty three sources from MLA International Bibliography, 43 from Literary Reference Center and two from ATLA Religion Database. Use those filters to sort out Academic Journals that are Scholarly (peer-reviewed).

I'll take a look at this comparative article. Notice the subject terms in the record. There's Hawthorne's name and Young Goodman Brown so this article will be about that short story and you can tell that it's a comparative article because Poe's name is mentioned and one of his short stories.

A lot of articles are available in full-text. Look for the PDF full text link. You can print or email this article, export it, save it, whatever you choose to do. You'll probably also be interested in the Cite feature. Scroll down to find the MLA format. The good news is that this is the MLA 8th Edition. Be sure to compare this to a trusted style guide before using it in your paper.

Here's an article that doesn't have an obvious PDF link, so choose the link that says "Check Campbell Library for print or online version." Notice that EBSCO directs you to ProQuest Literature Online, a different database that has the article in full text. If it wasn't available at Campbell, you would be prompted to borrow the article through Interlibrary Loan at no cost.

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