

Literature Resource Center

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Literature Resource Center - what is it, and how do I use it?

- The Literature Resource Center is an online gateway to information on literary figures from a variety of genres and formats. This Gale Group database connects users to biographical information on over 120,000 authors, and includes over 10,000 “biocritical essays”.
- It includes full-text access to Gale’s Literature Criticism for Students series.
- The LRC offers five distinct search features: author, title, advanced, keyword, and authors by type. Users can also access a lengthy “Literary Historical Timeline.”
- This database is suitable for high school and college students, as well as the “sophisticated casual user.”

Strengths

- In-depth resource for literature and authors
- Offers full-text articles
- Variety of search techniques, i.e. advanced searching includes themes, genres, and author's nationality
- Similar feel to Student Resource Gold – compatible searching and help options
- Option to print, email, and save articles

Weaknesses

- Only offers articles on a select number of authors – not comprehensive
- There is article overlap among tabs – offers redundant information at times
- The number of different tabs can be overwhelming to a new user
- No saving searches or marked lists

The following examples show the three most common searches you will use on LRC.

Where Do I Start Searching?

This image shows the home page of Literature Resource Center.

1. This starting page directs you to the **search options** available in LRC.

2. This page allows you to choose from five search options: **author, title, advanced, keyword, and authors by type**.

3. Users can also search and browse a **literary historical timeline**.

4. This screen offers a **default search – author**.

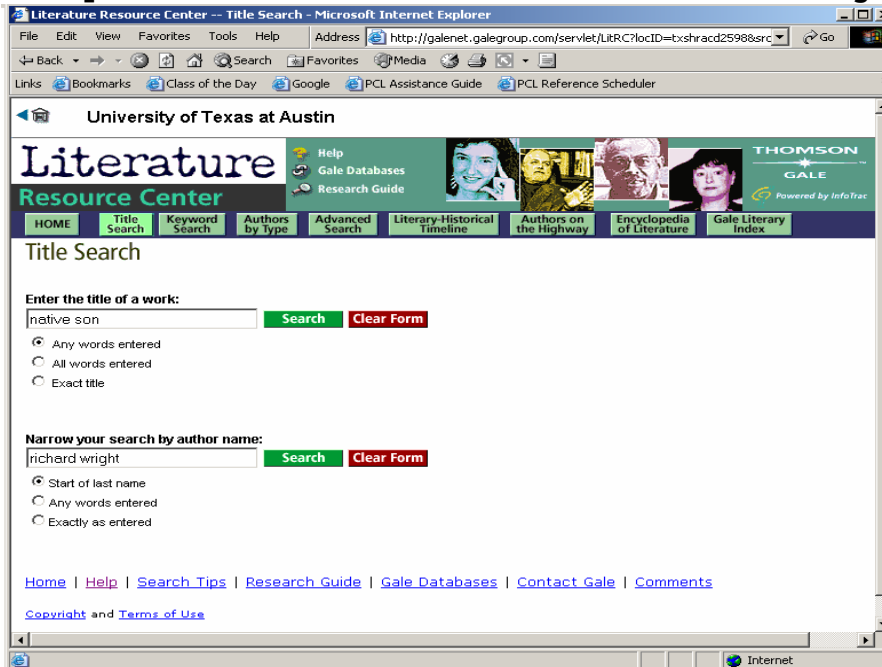
5. From this page, you can access more LRC information as well as the **help screen**.

The screenshot shows the Literature Resource Center home page in a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window. The browser title is "Literature Resource Center - Microsoft Internet Explorer". The address bar shows the URL: <http://galenet.galegroup.com/servlet/LRRC>. The page header includes "University of Texas at Austin" and "Literature Resource Center". The main content area features a search bar with a "Search" button and a "Clear Form" button. Below the search bar are tabs for "Other Searches": "Title", "Advanced", "Keyword", "Authors by Type", and "Literary-Historical Timeline". The page also includes a "Spotlight on..." section featuring Alexander Pope and a "Help" section with links to "Search Tips", "Research Guide", "Gale Databases", "Contact Gale", and "Comments".

Title Search

This option allows users to search literary materials by title.

Example: I'd like to find information about the Richard Wright novel Native Son.



1. Choose whether you would like to search for a **title** or an **author name**.
2. In the first text box, enter the title of the work you would like to search.
3. Select whether **any words entered, all words entered, or exact title** best represents your search.
4. **OR**, in the second text box, enter the name of the author.
5. Enter the **full name**, or a **portion of the name**, and click 'search.'

Advanced Search

For users with more complicated information needs, the advanced search option provides a range of search options.

1. Enter your keywords in the available entry fields – if using multiple search fields, determine whether you want your searches connected with **AND, OR, or NOT**.

2. Use the **drop-down boxes** to determine your search criteria – there are a number of options..

3. **Browse the options** in these boxes before settling on any one choice – the options should affect your choice of keywords.

4. Choose the **document type(s)** you would like to search.

5. Click '**search.**'

