Consider Resources

Research by Subject → Film and Media

Find Books and More...

Search the library catalogue (QCAT) to find books, videos, journals, both scholarly and popular (but not the articles within them) and more!

Search QCAT

Check out the following series of books which cover directors, films and history and criticism of films by doing a title search.

- BFI film classics/ BFI modern classics
- Cambridge film classics
- Cambridge film handbooks series
- Cambridge studies in film
- Film and culture
- Reference publication in film

To find books on your topic, use either a keyword or subject search. Think of the words that best describe your topic and connect them with the Boolean operators: AND, OR, NOT

- godfather and coppola

Select useful title(s) from your hits and then look at the subject headings. Use them to provide more keyword ideas or as individual searches themselves. For example:

- Coppola Francis Ford, 1939-
- Crime films
- Gangster films--United States--History and criticism

Other searches to try:

- Godfather and (film or "motion pictures" or cinema)
- Italian Americans in motion pictures
- Ethnicity in motion pictures
- Mafia in motion pictures

To find books on film topics, try a subject search using Library of Congress subject headings.
By Film:
Godfather
Rear Window
Searchers

By Genre:
Detective and mystery films
Gangster films
Science fiction films
Thrillers
War films

By Person:
Welles, Orson 1915-1985
Ford, John, 1894-1973--Interviews
Hitchcock, Alfred, 1899-1980--Criticism and interpretation

Selected subject headings:
Femininity in motion pictures
Feminism and motion pictures
Film criticism
Gender identity in motion pictures
Historical films--History and criticism
Love in motion pictures
Minorities in motion pictures
Motion pictures--Aesthetics
Motion pictures--History
New wave films
Sex role in motion pictures
Women in motion pictures

Searching for a journal article


**Film Criticism**

Film criticism can be found in various sources, including reviews that are written for a general audience and are published in newspapers, magazines and online. Film analyses written by academics and film scholars are published in scholarly journals.

To determine if a journal is scholarly, go to our guide, *Distinguishing Scholarly Journals from Other Periodicals* at: library.queensu.ca/inforef/tutorials/qcat/geval.htm

**Find Journal Articles**

Use the following indexes to locate article citations from popular, scholarly and trade journals.

→ Film Index International, 1900 - present
→ Film and Television Literature Index, from the mid - 1950's
→ MLA Bibliography, 1925 - present

Also consider:
Academic Search Complete
Factiva (newspaper/trade publications' coverage varies)
Humanities and Social Sciences Retrospective, 1907 - 1984
To search journal indexes, click the tab **Databases** and enter title of database.

**Film Index International**

*Film Index International* covers films from the first silent movies to the latest blockbusters from all countries and in all languages. It has information on more than 125,000 films and includes references to journal articles on both films and personalities.

- **Title:** godfather
- **Director:** coppola

**Film and Television Literature Index**

- coppola and godfather [note various ways to narrow your search if you wish]

To find out if Queen's Library subscribes to the journal, click on **Get It!** if the full text is not readily available.

**TIP:** If the "Get It!" link does not find anything, don't assume the Library does not hold the item. A search in QCAT for the title of the book or journal might find it.

**TIP:** If clicking on a full text link does not take you directly to the article, you will need to navigate a bit to get the article you want - depending on the resource provider.

**MLA International Bibliography**

Although MLA is the primary index for locating research on literature, it also provides pertinent references to books and journal articles about film criticism from scholarly sources.

- **Author as subject:** coppola
- **Author's work:** godfather

**Film Journals**

The following is a selective list of respected journal titles:

- *Camera Obscura*  
- *Film Criticism*  
- *Journal of Film and Video*
- *Cineaste*  
- *Film History*  
- *Jump Cut*
- *Cinema Journal*  
- *Film Quarterly*  
- *Sight and Sound*
- *Film Comment*  
- *Wide Angle*  
- *Historical Journal of Film, Video and Television*
Find Trade Publications and Newspapers

Variety
Variety (1905 to present) can be found on microfilm (PN2000.V3) for back issues (1905-2014 on the Lower Level) and the latest 6 months can be found in current periodicals (2nd floor). You can also access it electronically by searching QCAT or via the tab Journals A-Z.

Factiva
Find reviews from popular sources such as newspapers and some magazines.

Search QCAT to find newspapers to which the library has access. Either do a title search or a subject heading search, e.g. New York N.Y. Newspapers.

Check out the following online full text newspapers: Globe and Mail; Toronto Star; New York Times and the Times Digital Archive (London) and LibraryPress Display (for current issues).

Also check our Newspapers subject guide at: guides.library.queensu.ca/newspapers

 Summon
With Summon, you can easily search, discover and access information on any topic from the Queen's Library collections - print and electronic books, single articles to entire e-journals, newspapers, theses and more. You can limit your results to peer-reviewed materials, filter by year and form, narrow by additional subject terms and then save, print or email references.

Summon is a good starting point to find material for your research but if you are doing higher level research, you will want to search relevant subject specific databases.

Find Resources on the Web

Criteria for Evaluating Websites: library.queensu.ca/inforef/tutorials/qcat/evalint.htm

Search the Web

Check our Search the Web guide: library.queensu.ca/research/guide/search-web

Google Advanced Search www.google.ca/advanced_search
Google Scholar scholar.google.ca/

By searching Google Scholar through the Queen’s Library website, the "Get It! @ Queen’s" citation linker is activated (which allows you to click through to the Library’s subscriptions).

The following are selected Web resources that may provide specific information and resources:
Digital Librarian (Movies)  www.digital-librarian.com/movies.html

Voice of the Shuttle (Media Studies)  vos.ucsb.edu/browse.asp?id=2720

The Internet Movie Database  www.imdb.com
Features films from around the world, with filmographies, plot summaries, and links to reviews.

All Movie Guide Masters of Cinema  allmovie.com/
An international film and video database including 131,000 feature, documentary, children’s, and television movies from 1913 to the present.

The Moving Image Source Research Guide  www.movingimagesource.us/research
A gateway to excellent online resources related to film, television and digital media.

Movie Reviews

Reviews often contain useful information and unique insights. Below is a list of some of the largest sources of online reviews.

Best 1,000 Movies Ever Made  www.nytimes.com/ref/movies/1000best.html

Boxoffice Online  boxoffice.com/
Contains reviews of latest release and news about and previews of films in the works.

Movie Review Query Engine  www.mrqe.com

Rotten Tomatoes  www.rottentomatoes.com

Organizations

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences  www.oscars.org/
The British Film Institute  www.bfi.org.uk

Film Scripts

American Film Scripts Online, via Library Homepage  →  Databases
Index to American feature films produced during the 20th century, including full production and cast information as well as extensive plot summaries and notes.

Open Access Film Journals

Scope: an Online Journal of Film & TV Studies  www.scope.nottingham.ac.uk/

Screening the Past www.screeningthepast.com/

Senses of Cinema www.sensesofcinema.com

Also check websites listed under the department  www.film.queensu.ca/Links.html.

Cite Sources

Check our Citation and Style Guides page at:  How-to & Help → How to Cite Sources

MLA is the preferred style of documentation in Film and Media. Check QCAT for print copies in the library system or use the online MLA style guide at OWL at Purdue University.

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Stauffer Library
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