

Film 206: Finding Resources on the Web

Library Research Assignment

Identify three web based sources that you believe are good sources for someone working on the research topic you have chosen and explain why they are good sources.

Determining the credibility of information found on the Web is not always easy. The criteria below will help guide you in making informed evaluations of the websites you find.

Criteria for Evaluating Websites

Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who is the author of the page?• What are their credentials?• What institution are they affiliated with? Is the producing institution reputable?• Does the page conveniently display this information?• Is there an email address or other address for further information?
Objectivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is the purpose of this page?• What point of view is the page promoting? Is it biased in some way?• Does the author state the goals for this site?• If the author is affiliated with an institution (government, university, association, organization, etc.) does this affiliation bias the information presented?
Accuracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is the information correct?• Can it be verified from other sources?• Are there grammatical errors?
Currency	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is there a date of publication or last update?• When was the page created?• Do the links work?• Is the page maintained and new material added?
Coverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Does the page cover what you need to know?

Search World Wide Web Resources

Check our Search the Web Guide at:

<http://library.queensu.ca/inforef/guides/www.htm>



Google Advanced Search offers a variety of ways to structure a more precise search and improving the efficiency of your search results.



About Google Scholar

Google Scholar is Google's scholarly search engine that searches for scholarly materials including journal articles, theses, books, preprints, abstracts and technical reports from broad areas of research. It searches a variety of academic publishers, professional societies, preprint repositories and universities, as well as scholarly articles available across the web.

Scholar Preferences

Click on Scholar Preferences to view several preferences you can set. When searching Google Scholar from on-campus, the Library Links preference will already be set to allow for the Get it at Queen's service (this service links citations in research databases to full-text articles or to the Library Catalogue or to other related web services provided by Queen's University Library).

When off-campus, search Google Scholar through the web proxy to activate Get it @ Queens links to full text.

Subject Directories

These web sites present comprehensive, often annotated lists of other sites on the web to find specific information and resources. Subject directories are created by human editors who review and select sites for inclusion in their directories on the basis of previously determined selection criteria.

Academic Info Film Studies Gateway

<http://academicinfo.net/film.html>

Librarian's Internet Index

<http://lii.org/>

Voice of the Shuttle (Media Studies)

<http://vos.ucsb.edu/browse.asp?id=2720>

TIP: Browse by subject or search using broad subject keywords.

For more subject directories consult the University of California, Berkeley Recommended Subject Directories at:

<http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/TeachingLib/Guides/Internet/SubjDirectories.html>

General Sites

The following are selected Web resources that may provide useful starting points:

The Internet Movie Database <http://www.imdb.com>

A comprehensive database of over 416,000 films from around the world, with filmographies, plot summaries, and links to reviews (selective).

Masters of Cinema <http://www.mastersofcinema.org/>

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 <http://www.nytimes.com/ref/movies/1000best.html#V>

Boxoffice Online <http://www.boxoff.com>

Contains reviews of latest release and news about and previews of films in the works.

Movie Review Query Engine <http://www.mrqe.com>

Includes over 68,000 titles and over 634,000 reviews.

Rotten Tomatoes <http://www.rottentomatoes.com>

Focuses on current film and DVD releases.

Organizations

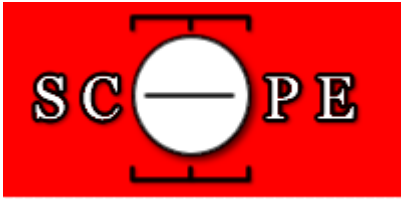
The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences <http://www.oscars.org/>

The British Film Institute <http://www.bfi.org.uk>

Film Scripts

American Film Scripts Online, via Library Homepage – under Research 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

Bright Lights Journal

<http://www.brightlightsfilm.com/>

Images: a Journal of Film and Popular Culture

<http://www.imagesjournal.com/index.html>

Scope: an Online Journal of Film Studies

<http://www.scope.nottingham.ac.uk/>

Screening the Past

<http://www.latrobe.edu.au/screeningthepast/>

Senses of Cinema Online Journal Devoted to the Serious and Eclectic Discussion of Cinema

<http://www.sensesofcinema.com>

Also consider websites listed under the Film and Media Department

<http://www.film.queensu.ca/Links.html>

Citing Sources



MLA format is the preferred style of documentation in Film and Media. A copy of the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* is on Reserve (LB2369.G53 2003).

Refer to:

Diana Hacker: Research and Documentation Online

http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/p04_c08_o.html

OWL at Purdue: MLA Citation and Formatting Guide

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01/>