



Serving Northern  
British Columbia

# English - Canadian Literature

## Library Subject Guide

<http://library.nlc.bc.ca>

*Information literacy is a set of abilities requiring individuals to "recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use effectively the needed information."*

Association of College and Research Libraries

The study of Canadian Literature involves the study of creative works such as novels, short stories and poetry by Canadian authors. Northern Lights College offers a number of Literature courses: Nonfictional Prose, Poetry and Drama, Prose Fiction, Survey of English Literature I & II, Canadian Literature, Children's Literature, Women's Literature.

For related material, view the **English - Creative Writing, English - Literature, English - Writing Resources, and Shakespeare** Library Subject Guides.

**Ask a Librarian** for assistance in finding relevant books and journal articles and/or if you need help researching a course related topic. The librarian will also provide assistance in using the Library's website, online catalogue, article databases, and the Internet. Contact the librarian directly or use the "Ask a librarian" section on the Library web pages.

Dawson Creek Library  
Janet Beavers, Coordinator of Library Services  
Phone: (250)-782-5251 (local 1251)  
Email: [jbeavers@nlc.bc.ca](mailto:jbeavers@nlc.bc.ca)

Fort St. John Library  
Dawna Turcotte, Librarian  
Phone: (250)-785-6981 (local 2012)  
Email: [dturcotte@nlc.bc.ca](mailto:dturcotte@nlc.bc.ca)

### REFERENCE:

Dictionaries, encyclopedias and handbooks can be a useful starting point for learning. Many of these sources provide basic information, overviews of topics, as well as introduce specialized terminology and detailed information. Major reference works are held mainly at the Dawson Creek and Fort St. John libraries. Some titles of interest located in the Reference Section are:

#### Dawson Creek Reference Collection

PS 8071 A55 V. 1	Annotated bibliography of Canada's major authors	PS 8015 E53 2002	Encyclopedia of literature in Canada
PS 8081 J66 2000	Canadian children's books a critical guide to	PS 8015 O94 1997	Oxford companion to Canadian Lit
PS 8015 O94 2001	Concise Oxford companion to Canadian literature	PS 8015 J66 2005	Reference sources for Canadian literary
PS 8081 C66 1996 V.1	Contemporary Canadian authors	PS 8081 W46 1992-93	Who's who in Canadian literature

#### Fort St. John Reference Collection

PS 8081 J66 2000	Canadian children's books a critical guide to authors and	PS 8015 E53 2002	Encyclopedia of literature in Canada
AI 3 C245 E86 1973	Canadian essay and literature index	PS 8001 C25 1992	Index to the contents of the periodical Can
PN 451 D53 V.99	Canadian writers before 1890	PS 8015 O94	Oxford companion to Canadian literature
PN 451 D53 V.92	Canadian writers, 1890-1920	PS 8015 O94 1997	Oxford companion to Canadian literature
PN 451 D53 V.68	Canadian writers, 1920-1959	PS 8071 P76 7	Profiles in Canadian literature 7
PN 451 D53 V.88	Canadian writers, 1920-1959	PS 8071 P76 V.8	Profiles in Canadian literature
PN 451 D53 V.60	Canadian writers since 1960	PS 8015 J66 2005	Reference sources for Canadian literary st.
PN 451 D53 V.53	Canadian writers since 1960	FC 23 T6 1973	Sup. to the Oxford companion to Cdn history
PS 8015 O94 2001	Concise Oxford companion to Canadian literature	PS 8081 W46 1992-93	Who's who in Canadian literature
PS 8081 C66 1996 V.1	Contemporary Canadian authors	PS 8081 W77 1993	Who's who in the Writers' Union of Canada

### CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM:

To assist you in browsing the collection, try the following areas:

PE English                      GR Folklore                      PN General Literary History                      PS8000 Canadian Literature

## LIBRARY CATALOGUE AND ELECTRONIC DATABASES

To find books, journals, and audiovisual materials on your topic, search the library's online **catalogue**. If you are looking for journal articles, search the library's online **journal article indexes & electronic databases**. Use **keywords** to search the online catalogue and/or electronic databases. A keyword is a word or term that best describes the information you are looking for. You can search the library catalogue or an electronic database for either a single keyword or a combination of keywords in order to find articles in an electronic database or books in the online catalogue containing the keyword(s).

### Examples of keywords:

Al Purdy	Canadian drama 20 <sup>th</sup> century	Canadian poetry	Leacock, Stephen
Atwood, Margaret	Canadian fiction	Canadian prose	monologues, Canadian
Authors, Canadian	Canadian literature	Douglas Coupland	Timothy Findlay
Canadian book reviews	Canadian literary criticism	folk literature	Richler, Mordecai

## PERIODICALS & NEWSPAPERS:

The library currently subscribes to several periodicals and newspapers of particular interest to literature students:

Periodical Title.....	Library Holdings.....	Campus Library
Books in Canada	current	DC/FSJ
Brick	1998 - current	FSJ
Canadian Literature	1959 - current	DC/FSJ
College English	1997- current	FSJ
College Literature	2000 - current	FSJ
Fiddlehead	1999 - present	DC/FSJ
Grain	1997 - current	FSJ
The Literary review of Canada	2005 - 2007	FSJ
Malahat Review	2002 - current	DC
Mosaic	2004 - current	FSJ
Prairie Fire	1994 - current	FSJ
Quill & Quire	2004 - current	DC/FSJ

## DATABASES & INDEXES

access: <http://nlc.bc.ca/library/articleindexes.php>

**Academic Search Premier:** Provides coverage for social sciences, humanities, education, computer sciences, arts and literature, medical sciences, and ethnic studies. Citations and full text available. 1984-present. Updated monthly.

**Books in Print: Canadian edition.** Lists 3 million in- and out-of print titles available in Canada, books, videos and audio books.

**CBCA Fulltext Reference:** Canadian Business and Current Affairs is a major index for Canadian newspapers, popular & business scholarly journal and popular magazines. 1982- present.

**CPIQ:** Current events, health, technology, arts, history, culture and business. 400 Canadian periodicals with 137 full text. Updated weekly.

**Dictionary of Canadian Biography Online:** This online dictionary, from the National Archives of Canada, presents persons who died between 1000 and 1920 or whose last known date of activity falls within these year. Full text.

**Humanities Index:** Provides coverage in literature, sociology, anthropology, geography, etc. 1983- present. Updated monthly.

**Ingenta Connect:** Article citations and summaries in all disciplines

**MLA International Bibliography:** A bibliography of journal articles, books and dissertations published by the Modern Language Association. World literature, folklore, music, art, rituals, and belief systems. Other topics include literary theory and criticism and the dramatic arts. Citation and fulltext available.

**Oxford English Dictionary:** The accepted authority on the evolution of the English language over the last millennium, a guide to the meaning, history, and pronunciation of over half a million words, both present and past.

**Readers Guide to Periodical Literature:** Subjects include popular literature, current events, business, fashion, politics, crafts, food, sports, history & science. 1983-current

## WEBSITES

Canadian Drama & Theatre

Association for Canadian Theatre Research: <http://www.catr-acrt.ca/>

Canadian Adaptation of Shakespeare: <http://www.canadianshakespeares.ca/>  
Canadian Theatre Encyclopedia: <http://www.canadiantheatre.com/>  
Glossary of Technical Theatre Terms - Theatrecrafts.com: <http://www.theatrecrafts.com/glossary/glossary.shtml>

### Canadian Literature

BC Author Bank – BC Book World: <http://www.abcbookworld.com/>  
Canadian Literature Archive: <http://www.umanitoba.ca/canlit/>  
A Celebration of Women Writers – Canada: [http://digital.library.upenn.edu/women/\\_generate/CANADA.html](http://digital.library.upenn.edu/women/_generate/CANADA.html)  
Library and Archives Canada: <http://www.collectionscanada.ca/>

- Canadian Information by Subject - Canadian Literature: <http://www.collectionscanada.ca/caninfo/ep08.htm#C81>
- Canadian Writers: <http://www.collectionscanada.ca/writers/>
- Early Canadiana Online: <http://www.canadiana.org/eco/index.html>

Crime Writers of Canada: <http://crimewriterscanada.com/cwc/index.html>  
Hugh MacLennan Papers Online: <http://digital.library.mcgill.ca/macLennan/>  
Modern World - Experimental Literature: <http://www.themodernword.com/default.aspx>  
Northwest Passages - Canadian Literature Online: <http://www.nwpassages.com/default.asp>  
The Porcupine's Quill: Canadian Literary Links: <http://porcupinesquill.ca>  
Rufus Hathaway Collection of Canadian Literature – Selected Manuscripts – from University of New Brunswick: [http://www.lib.unb.ca/Texts/Special\\_Collections/Hathaway/Hathaway.html](http://www.lib.unb.ca/Texts/Special_Collections/Hathaway/Hathaway.html)  
University of Manitoba: <http://umanitoba.ca/>

- Canadian Literature: <http://www.umanitoba.ca/canlit/authorlist/index.shtml>
- Canadian Literature Archive: <http://www.umanitoba.ca/canlit/>

Voice of the Shuttle: Literature Site: <http://vos.ucsb.edu/browse.asp?id=3>

### Canadian Poetry

A Celebration of Women Writers - Canadian Poets: <http://digital.library.upenn.edu/women/garvin/poets/canadian-poets.html>  
Canadian Poetry Association: <http://www.canadianpoetryassoc.com/>  
Canadian Poetry - University of Toronto Library: <http://www.library.utoronto.ca/canpoetry/>  
Canadian Poetry Archive - Library and Archives Canada: <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/canvers/index-e.html>  
Canadian Poetry Web Links: <http://www.canadianpoetry.ca/links.htm>

- Early Writing in Canada: <http://www.canadianpoetry.ca/eng%20274e/index.htm>

CanLinks – Individual Writers and their Works: [http://lucking.net/canlinks/cl\\_writers\\_a.htm](http://lucking.net/canlinks/cl_writers_a.htm)  
Early Canadiana Online: <http://www.canadiana.org/eco/index.html>  
Representative Poetry Online: <http://rpo.library.utoronto.ca/display/index.cfm>  
Writing Canada into the Millenium - Canadian Poets Online: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/UofC/faculties/HUM/ENGL/canada/frames.html>

### Literary Criticism and Theory

Glossary of Literary Theory – U of Toronto: <http://www.library.utoronto.ca/utel/glossary/headerindex.html>  
Literary Criticism – Internet Public Library (IPL): <http://www.ipl.org/div/litcrit/>  
Literary Resources – Theory – Rutgers University: <http://andromeda.rutgers.edu/~jlynch/Lit/theory.html>  
Modern Literary Theory: <http://www.kristisiegel.com/theory.htm>  
Voice of the Shuttle: <http://vos.ucsb.edu/index.asp>

- Literary Theory: <http://vos.ucsb.edu/browse.asp?id=2718>

### Online Journal – free full text

Studies in Canadian Literature (SCL/ELC): <http://www.lib.unb.ca/Texts/SCL/generalinfo.htm>

### General Reference Online

The Cambridge History of English and American Literature - Bartleby.com: <http://www.bartleby.com/cambridge/chapterindex.html>  
Governor General's Literary Awards – Canada Council for the Arts: <http://www.canadacouncil.ca/prizes/ggla/default.asp>  
Literature – What makes a good story: <http://www.learner.org/exhibits/literature/read/plot1.html>

- Elements of plot development: <http://www.learner.org/exhibits/literature/read/plot1.html>

Literary Encyclopedia: <http://www.litencyc.com/>  
Online Guide to Writing in Canada: <http://www.track0.com/ogwc/>  
Virtual Classroom Glossary of Literary Terms – University of Cambridge – Dept. of English: <http://www.english.cam.ac.uk/vclass/terms.htm>