

Library Research Guide for ENGN 481: Asian American Drama (Löfgren)

Fall 2007

Getting help with your research

You can contact a reference librarian at any time for help with your research for this class, or any of your other classes:

Questions about English:

Christine Ruotolo

ruotolo@virginia.edu

434-982-2652

General Reference Questions :

IM Screen Name: UVALibRef

library@virginia.edu

434-984-3021

Searching the Library's materials

Use VIRGO, the online catalog: <http://virgo.lib.virginia.edu>. VIRGO lets you:

- Find library-owned materials, including books, manuscripts, CDs and DVDs
- Renew materials, place a recall, request a purchase or an interlibrary loan

Sample searches: philip kan gotanda [author]

asian american drama [subject]

Truncation: **ethnic\$** for ethnic, ethnicity, etc.

Booleans: **drama or theater**

Exact Phrase: **'identity politics'** (note the single quotes)

Finding full-text plays by Asian Americans

[Asian American Drama](#) contains searchable full text of over 250 plays, many of them previously unpublished works by well-known playwrights. The database also contains playbills and other production information.

Finding basic information about an author or literary work

[Literature Resource Center](#) is a great place to begin research on a particular author. This database includes full-text articles from the Dictionary of Literary Biography and other biographical sources, plus citations from MLAIB (see description below) and some full-text articles.

Sample search: In Literature Resource Center, search for **david henry hwang**. Click on the tabs near the top of the screen to view results in different categories - in this case, 4 biographical essays, 43 reference articles, 79 citations from MLAIB, etc.

Finding scholarly journal articles

[MLA International Bibliography \(MLAIB\)](#) is the best resource for finding scholarly journal articles. Contains articles written from 1920 to the present. To get the full text of the article, click on "Find article @ UVa Libraries", or look up the journal title in VIRGO.

Sample search: In the MLAIB, type **wakako yamauchi** in the search box; returns 11 citations. Use Find@UVa Libraries link to get from the citation to the articles.

[InfoTrac OneFile](#) is a more general database, with popular and scholarly articles going back to 1980. Many articles are available in full text.

Finding recent newspaper articles

[LexisNexis](#) is the best resource for newspaper articles written within the past ten years, and includes many reviews of plays and films.

[Ethnic NewsWatch](#) contains newspaper, magazine, and journal articles from 200 ethnic, minority, and native publications in the U.S.

Finding older newspaper articles

[ProQuest Historical Newspapers](#): Use this database to find newspaper articles more than 10 years old. It contains full text of four major US newspapers (NY Times, Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, Chicago Tribune), dating back to their initial date of publication.

Sample search: Go to the advanced search. Type **chong** in the first search box and **nuit blanche** in the second search box. 6 results are returned.

Finding film reviews and articles about film and theater

[International Index to the Performing Arts \(IIPA\)](#), [Film Index International](#), and [Film & Television Literature Index](#) are the additional resources for scholarly articles about film.

Sample search: Search IIPA using **namesake** in the Quick Search box.

See also: [Movie Review Query Engine](#); [Internet Movie Database](#)

Helpful URLs

Library Home Page: <http://www.lib.virginia.edu>

Ask a Librarian (phone, email, IM): <http://www.lib.virginia.edu/questions.html>

English Subject Guide: <http://www.lib.virginia.edu/subjects/English>

Accessing Databases from Off Grounds: <http://www.lib.virginia.edu/indexes/authent.html>

RefWorks: <http://www.lib.virginia.edu/services/refworks.html>

<http://www.lib.virginia.edu/subjects/English/guides/ENGN481.pdf>

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