THET 110: Introduction to the Theatre

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The University of Maryland Libraries have many resources that will help with the research for your THET 110 projects. If you need additional information, please contact Judy Markowitz, Reference Librarian, 301-314-1316, judym@umd.edu.

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Off Campus Access to Electronic Resources

Research Port is the libraries gateway to the databases, electronic journals and off campus access. When using a database, be sure to follow the link. This will direct you to the available full text, the catalog, or Interlibrary Loan if full text is not available and if the Libraries do not subscribe to the journal or needed vol/issues.

Performance Project

WHO IS LORRAINE HANSBERRY? or LOCATING BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

- Literature Resource Center
- International Dictionary of Theatre. (Playwright volume) PA LIB REF PN2035.I49
WHAT IS A RAISIN IN THE SUN ABOUT? or THE PLAY'S BACKGROUND

- **Literature Resource Center**
- **International Dictionary of Theatre.** (Play volume) PA LIB REF PN2035.I49
- Search **THE CATALOG**. Conduct a *subject beginning with...* search = hansberry, lorraine and look for the subdivision: criticism and interpretation
- **MLA International Bibliography**
  - limit to english / Sample search: raisin in the sun


Depending on when the play was first produced, it is generally somewhat easy to locate information about the first production of a play. It is a bit harder to determine the subsequent production history. Several sources need to be consulted, including review sources, to compile the production history. Also, the time period (ancient greece, middle ages, european renaissance, 19th century...) of the play's productions will determine what sources to use.

FIRST PRODUCTION

- **Literature Resource Center**
- **North American Theatre Online**
- **Cassell Companion to Theatre** PA LIB REF PN2035.B74 1997
- **International Dictionary of Theatre.** (Play volume) PA LIB REF PN2035.I49

PRODUCTION HISTORIES

Some databases contain the full text of the journal article. Be sure to follow the link to see the availability of full-text. If full-text is not available you will be linked to the Catalog.
Sometimes you will already have a journal article citation from your professor or a reference list. You will need to determine if we own the journal and/or if the article is available fulltext. Use the following:

**Full Text Finder** (the find it menu will provide information on full text availability or other options, just like the find it from the databases)

OR

- Use the **JOURNALS** Subset of the **Catalog** to locate the holdings of the journal.

In either case, look up the **TITLE of the journal NOT** the title of the article. Example:

Kodat, Catherine Gunther. Confusion in a Dream Deferred: Context and Culture in Teaching A Raisin in the Sun. *Studies in the Literary Imagination* 1998 Spring; 31 (1): 149-64. Search the **JOURNALS** Subset of the catalog under the title of the journal (Studies in the Literary Imagination) - **NOT** the title of the article (Confusion in a Dream...s) or the author of the article (Kodat)

1. **Databases**

- **International Bibliography of Theatre and Dance.** 1982 -. Comprehensive database for theatre research.

- **MLA International Bibliography.** 1963 -. Most important database for literature, includes theatre materials./limit to english / Sample search strategy: raisin in the sun and (theatrical production or stage or staging)

**North American Theatre Online** Full text database of plays, production history, reference works. Search under person or name of play.

- **World Shakespeare Bibliography**
sample search strategy: hamlet and (production or staging)

2. **Use the Catalog**

conducted a **subject beginning with...** search = miller, arthur and look for the subdivisions: stage history; theatrical production; title of play

3. **Theatre Production Studies**


- Leggatt, ALexander. *Jacobean Public Theatre*. PA LIB PN2596.L6L37

There are other titles in this series that might be helpful. Use the THE CATALOG and the Advanced Search and the series search.

4. Plays in Production Series

Miller, Brenda. *Miller, Death of a Salesman*. PA LIB REF & MCK STKS PS3525.I5196D4357

Tornqvist, Egil. *Ibsen, A Doll's House*. PA LIB REF & MCK STKS PT8861.T67 1995

4. Director / Designer

The following books provide background information on the designer and director. Use the index to look up the title of the play. Check the catalog to see if we own the book and/or journal articles cited.


WHERE ARE REVIEWS FOUND?

Locating and reading reviews of previous productions will help you in your role of designer, director, actor or dramaturg. Play Reviews generally provide information about the set and staging and costumes and acting and many other aspects of the production.

Consult the library guide, Play Reviews for additional sources.

Breed, Paul. *Dramatic Criticism Index*. PA LIB REF & MCK REF Z5781.B8


  Reprints the entire review that appeared in the New York Times. A few years are not available. Use with the *New York Times Directory of the Theatre* (See next entry)

  This is an index to all the reviews published in the New York Times from 1920-1970


- [Academic Universe (Lexis/Nexis)](http://www.academicuniverse.com)
  This database provides full-text of newspaper articles. Coverage dates vary; examples: NYT=abstracts 1969-; full 1980-; Washington Post = 1977-. Search major papers, regional papers, some magazines (Time, The Stage..)

Search Strategy:
Go to Guided News Search
**Step One**: Select a News Category = General News
OR
**Step One**: Select a News Category = U.S. News

**Step Two**: Select a News Source = Major Papers
OR
**Step Two**: Select a News Source = Northeast Regional

**Step Three**: Enter Search Terms = *raisin in the sun and review*
  in Headline,Lead Paragraph(s), Terms
OR
  *raisin in the sun and (theater or theatre or stage) and review*

**Step Four**: Narrow to a specific date range = all available dates or previous five
years or...

Step Five: Search this publication title(s) -- Optional

*Washington Post*

**Search**
Results = **Expanded List** This will provide annotations so you can determine if the
article is relevant

- **International Bibliography of Theatre and Dance.** Search by name of the play and add
  (reviews or performance): raisin in the sun and (reviews or performance)

- **Academic Search Premier** Coverage dates vary, most titles indexed from the 80's - .
  This database provides abstracts and some full-text of journal articles from popular
  magazines and scholarly journals
  Type the name of the play and add the words **theatrical production** in the **Find box**
  = raisin in the sun and theatrical production

Use the above sources to locate information about actors/actresses. Search under the
performer's name and try adding words such as: interview or career

*WHERE ARE PRODUCTION PHOTOGRAPHS FOUND?*

  B585 FOLIO. (latest edition in reference covers years 1860 - 1985

- International Dictionary of the Theatre. PA LIB REF PN2035.I49

- McGraw-Hill Encyclopedia of World Drama. PA LIB REF & MCK REF PN1625.M3

- Theatre World. 1949/50 - . PA LIB PN2277.N5A17 (last 5 years in REF)

- Use Review Sources listed above

*Evaluating Web Sites*

Use the [Evaluating Web Sites](#) guide to determine the authority, accuracy...of a web site.

*Style Manuals*
Use the [Citation Systems and Style Manuals](http://www.lib.umd.edu/MCK/thet110korey.html) library guide to make sure you are citing correctly. Includes MLA and Chicago/Turabian styles.

### Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Use the [What is Plagiarism](http://www.lib.umd.edu/MCK/thet110korey.html) library guide to make sure you understand plagiarism.