

## **“TOOLS FOR ACADEMIC SUCCESS”**

*New online tools, research strategies, digitized resources, educational resources, all previewed for the very first time at Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt in December 2007, by Cairo IRC Suzy Metry and IRO Stephen Perry.*

### **STARTING THE RESEARCH PROCESS:**

**OUR CAIRO IRC AMERICAN LITERATURE BLOG:**

<http://cairoamlit.blogspot.com>

**IRO PERRY WIKI:** <http://irosteveperry.pbworks.com/irosteveperry>

Has links to the American Lit Blog above , a Black History Month Blog and Resources for Women’s Month as well as specialized bibliographies in a variety of subject areas.

#### **DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

**AMERICA.GOV:** <http://www.america.gov/>

**Student Corner:** <http://www.america.gov/publications/student-corner.html>

**America.gov in Arabic:** <http://www.america.gov/ar/>

**Student Corner** has the free outlines of American Literature as below:

#### **OUTLINE OF AMERICAN LITERATURE:**

<http://www.america.gov/publications/books.html#amlit>

**USA LITERATURE IN BRIEF:** [http://www.america.gov/publications/books.html#lit\\_brief](http://www.america.gov/publications/books.html#lit_brief)

#### **LIBRARY GUIDES: EFFECTIVE WAY TO START RESEARCH**

[springshare.com/libguides/index.html](http://springshare.com/libguides/index.html)

#### **ONE EXAMPLE OF A LIBRARY GUIDE IS THE GELMAN LIBRARY, GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY: RESEARCH GUIDES FROM THE GELMAN**

**LIBRARY: THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY:** <http://www.gwu.edu/~guides/>

#### **AMERICAN AND ENGLISH LITERATURE: THE CAMBRIDGE HISTORY OF ENGLISH AND AMERICAN LITERATURE:**

<http://www.bartleby.com/cambridge/>  
Considered the most important work of literary history and criticism ever published, the Cambridge History contains over 11,000 pages, with essay topics ranging from poetry, fiction, drama and essays to history, theology and political writing. The set encompasses a wide selection of writing, on even non-English literatures.

**THE BEST OF THE WEB IN ENCYCLOPEDIAS, DICTIONARIES, RESOURCES IN VARIOUS THEMES, DIGITAL COLLECTIONS, RESEARCH LIBRARIES WITH LINKS TO SEARCH ENGINES AMERICAN AND BRITISH LITERATURE INTERNET SITES:** <http://www.nypl.org/research/chss/grd/resguides/english/>

**ARTS AND LITERATURE COLLECTIONS FROM THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY’S DIGITIZED GALLERY: ALL IN FULL TEXT: UNDERSTAND THE BACKGROUND OF AMERICAN AND BRITISH LITERATURE BY LOOKING THROUGH THESE RESOURCES**

<http://digitalgallery.nypl.org/nypldigital/explore/dgexplore.cfm?topic=arts&x=9&y=6>

**DIGITIZED RESOURCES FOR LITERATURE AND LITERARY CRITICISM:**  
<http://www.digital-librarian.com/literature.html>

## **RESEARCH TECHNIQUES:**

**U CAL BERKELEY COURSE ON RESEARCH TECHNIQUES FOR USING THE INTERNET MORE EFFICIENTLY AND WISELY:**  
<http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/TeachingLib/Guides/Internet/FindInfo.html>

**BEYOND GOOGLE: BETTER SEARCH RESOURCES, EVALUATED BY EXPERTS IN MANY FIELDS.** <http://oedb.org/library/college-basics/research-beyond-google>

**USING THE INTERNET FROM THE ELDIS WEB SITE:**  
<http://www.eldis.org/go/topics/dossiers/using-the-internet>

**NOODLETOOLS: INFORMATION LITERACY SEARCH STRATEGIES**  
<http://www.noodletools.com/debbie/literacies/information/5locate/advicengine>

**SECRETS OF RESEARCHING FREE MATERIALS ON THE INTERNET (FREE, FULL TEXT WEB COLLECTIONS):**  
<http://www.suffolk.edu/sawlib/webcollect.htm#other>

## **NEW SEARCH ENGINES AND DIRECTORIES AND DIGITIZED RESOURCES:**

**Virtual Library:** <http://www.vlib.org>

**INFOMINE:** <http://infomine.ucr.edu>

**LIBRARIAN'S INDEX TO INTERNET:** <http://lii.org>

**INTERNET PUBLIC LIBRARY:** <http://www.IPL.org>

**VIRTUAL LEARNING RESEARCH CCENETR:** <http://www.virtuallrc.com/>

**NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY**

<http://www.nypl.org/links/>  
<http://www.nypl.org/digital/>

**VOICE OF THE SHUTTLE: PARTICULARLY STRONG IN LITERATURE:**  
<http://vos.ucsb.edu> **AN OUTSTANDING FIVE STAR RESOURCE!**

**MARVELOUS RESEARCH GUIDES AT NYPL:**  
<http://www.nypl.org/research/sibl/>

**LIBRARY OF CONGRESS ON LINE CATALOG:** <http://catalog.loc.gov/>

**LOC: ALCOVE9:** <http://www.loc.gov/rr/main/alcove9/>  
 An Annotated List of Reference Websites

**LIBRARY OF CONGRESS VIRTUAL REFERENCE SHELF:**

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/askalib/virtualref.html>

**DIGITIZED RESOURCES FROM THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS:**

**LOC: AMERICAN MEMORY:** <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/browse>

**A listing of excellent resources for American Studies, by topic and by historical periods in various fields all digitized**

**Go to BROWSE – show format**

**Look at ZORA NEALE HURSTON AS AN EXAMPLE IN THE AMERICAN MEMORY PROJECT: HAS ALL HER PLAYS, DIGITIZED.**

**Resources in Black Studies: L.O.C. SITES containing links to Historical Texts**

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/browse/ListSome.php?category=African%20American%20History>

**LOC: POETRY RESOURCES:**

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/lcpoetry/>

[Show LOC CD](#)

**THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS EXPERIENCE: NEW INTERACTIVE, DIGITIZED EXHIBITS OF THE TREASURES OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS:**

<http://www.loc.gov/experience/>

See the Gutenberg Bible and actually zoom in and read every page! This and other interactive exhibits are available absolutely free in this LOC website premiering April 12, 2008.

**DISTANCE EDUCATION SITES:**

**MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY:** [www.ocw.mit.edu](http://www.ocw.mit.edu)

**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA BERKELEY,** [www.youtube.com/ucberkeley](http://www.youtube.com/ucberkeley)

**OTHER UNIVERSITIES OFFERING FREE DISTANCE EDUCATION RESOURCES:**

[www.ocwconsortium.org](http://www.ocwconsortium.org)

**OPEN YALE COURSES:** <http://open.yale.edu/courses/>

**AMERICAN STUDIES and AMERICAN LITERATURE:**

**CROSSROADS PROJECT AT GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY**

<http://americanstudies.georgetown.edu>

show student theses under research

<http://crossroads.georgetown.edu>

**WRIGHT'S AMERICAN FICTION:** <http://www.lettrs.indiana.edu/web/w/wright2/>

This is a collection of 19th century American fiction, as listed in Lyle Wright's bibliography *American Fiction, 1851-1875*. There are currently 2,887 volumes included (1,763 unedited, 1,124 fully edited and encoded) by 1,456 authors. All resources are full text format.

**MAKING OF AMERICA:** <http://quod.lib.umich.edu/m/moa/>

Making of America (MOA) is a **free digital library of primary sources in American social history** primarily from the antebellum period through reconstruction.

The collection is particularly strong in the subject areas of education, psychology, American history, sociology, religion, and science and technology. and the history of New York City

The book collection currently contains approximately **10,000 books with 19th century imprints.**

**For more details about the project, see [About MoA](http://quod.lib.umich.edu/m/moagr/about.html).** (<http://quod.lib.umich.edu/m/moagr/about.html>)

**SUBJECT BROWSING OF THE MAKING OF AMERICA IS AVAILABLE VIA THIS WEB SITE:**

<http://quod.lib.umich.edu/cgi/t/text/text-idx?page=browse;cc=moa;c=moa;key=subject>

**DOCUMENTING THE AMERICAN SOUTH: SLAVE NARRATIVES, PLANTATION LIFE, SOUTHERN ECONOMY,** <http://docsouth.unc.edu/>

**PRIMARY RESOURCES FOR THE AMERICAN SOUTH**

*Documenting the American South* (DocSouth) is a digital publishing initiative that provides Internet access to texts, images, and audio files related to southern history, literature, and culture. Currently DocSouth includes ten thematic collections of books, diaries, posters, artifacts, letters, oral history interviews, and songs. The **University Library of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill** sponsors *Documenting the American South*, and the texts and materials come primarily from its southern holdings. The UNC University Library is committed to the long-term availability of these collections and their online records.

**AMERICAN STUDIES BIBLIOGRAPHY AND SCHOLARSHIP IN AMERICAN LITERARY STUDIES AND AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES:**

**STUDY OF THE U.S. BRANCH** Also has an *African American Reader*:

<http://exchanges.state.gov/education/amstudy/publications.htm>

**FREE RESOURCES FOR LITERARY SCHOLARSHIP AND CRITICISM:**

**BIBLIOMANIA: E-BOOKS AND STUDY GUIDES:** <http://www.bibliomania.com>

**Includes 2000 Classic Texts as well as Study Guides to the most read Books and Free Lesson Plans.**

**American Authors and their Works: Free videos and lesson plans for major American Authors:** <http://americanwriters.org>

**Best Books in a variety of subject areas, including literary theory:**

<http://www.septivium.com/b/2009/05/07/mefi/>

**INTERNATIONAL CHILDRENS DIGITAL LITERATURE, FULL TEXT, IN 20 LANGUAGES:** <http://icdlbooks.org/>

**INTERNET PUBLIC LIBRARY: LITERARY CRITICISM:** <http://www.ipl.org/div/litcrit/>

Search by author, by title or by time period.

**FREE SCHOLARSHIP AND BOOKS FROM U OF CALIFORNIA PRESS:**

<http://content.cdlib.org/escholarship/>

The eScholarship Editions collection includes almost 2000 books from academic presses on a range of topics, including art, science, history, music, religion, and fiction. Extraordinary resource that lets you search, read, print full-texts of many high-quality scholarly books

**UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON LIBRARIES: SCHOLARLY JOURNALS DISTRIBUTED VIA THE WORLD WIDE WEB** <http://info.lib.uh.edu/wj/webjour.html>

This directory provides links to established Web-based scholarly journals that offer access to English language article files without requiring user registration or fees.

Ex of AUSTRALIAN HUMANITIES REVIEW

**FREE E-JOURNALS ARRANGED BY SUBJECTS AND THEMES:**

<http://ejw.i8.com/> **Includes access to the best web sites and free E-Journals in over 40 different academic disciplines.**

## **HOW TO FIND FREE ARTICLES:**

**DIRECTORY OF OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS:** [www.doaj.org](http://www.doaj.org) example of Whitman and Thoreau

**SOCIAL SCIENCES RESEARCH NETWORK:** <http://hq.ssrn.com> example of Thoreau (need to register first for SSRN) go to [www.ssrn.com](http://www.ssrn.com) to register

## **FREE ONLINE BOOKS:**

**Best Free Online Books in a variety of Subject Areas, including Literary Theory:**

<http://www.septivium.com/b/2009/05/07/mefi/>

**UNIVERSAL DIGITAL LIBRARY:** [www.ulib.org](http://www.ulib.org)

**ONLINE BOOKS:** <http://onlinebooks.library.upenn.edu/lists.html>

The Online Books Page is a searchable and browsable collection of over 25,000 English language works in various formats that are all free for personal, noncommercial use. One can search by Author and Title

**E-TEXTS from the University of Virginia Libraries:** <http://etext.lib.virginia.edu/ebooks/>

**DEMO OF AN OPEN LIBRARY:** <http://demo.openlibrary.org/>

An attempt to put most books on the Internet. Searchable. SISTER CARRIE as an example of a digitized book

**E-BOOKS:** <http://www.bibliomania.com>

**Includes 2000 Classic texts and Study Guides to the most read books.**

**Other E-BOOKS listed at:** <http://www.resourceshelf.com/category/resources/e-books/>

## **HOW TO FIND FREE THESES/DISSERTATIONS:**

**Digitized Research Studies, Theses and specialized studies:**

**DRUM:** The Digital Repository of Maryland <http://www.lib.umd.edu/drum>

**FREE DISSERTATIONS AT THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTION OF TECHNOLOGY (MIT)**  
<http://dspace.mit.edu> **search on poets**

## **HOW TO FIND FREE EDUCATIONAL AND DOCUMENTARY VIDEOS:**

**ANNEBERG MEDIA:** An excellent site for Teaching Multi cultural literature; Includes videos, workshops, teaching strategies resources and students' work.

<http://www.learner.org/channel/workshops/tml/workshop1/index.html>

Other Annenberg free Videos and the Video on Demand series is available at:

[www.learner.org](http://www.learner.org)

**BLINKX: Search for Educational Videos using one of the best search engines just for videos:** <http://blinkx.com/>

Blinkx is the world's largest and most advanced video search engine. Fed by automatic spiders that crawl the web for audio video content and having content partnerships with over 200 leading media companies, blinkx uses advanced content analysis to better retrieve educational content.

## **EDUCATIONAL: MATERIALS AND FREE LESSON PLANS:**

**TOP 20 EDUCATIONAL WEB SITES:** <http://www.curriki.org/xwiki/bin/view/XWiki/geocam>

**CURRIKI:** CURRICULUM GUIDES AND LESSON PLANS FOR HUNDREDS OF DIFFERENT TOPICS: A GREAT RESOURCE FOR EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS AND TEACHERS! FUNDED IN PART BY THE US DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION:

<http://www.curriki.org/xwiki/bin/view/Main/WebHome>

LANGUAGE ARTS  
 CLICK ON ADAM BEDE

**EDSITEMENT:** Best of the Humanities on the Web

<http://edsitement.neh.gov>

got to SUBJECTS

POETRY

[http://edsitement.neh.gov/tab\\_lesson.asp?subjectArea=4&subcategory=45](http://edsitement.neh.gov/tab_lesson.asp?subjectArea=4&subcategory=45)

**FOR TEACHERS: BROWSEABLE LESSON PLANS INDEX**

[http://www.marcopolo-](http://www.marcopolo-education.org/teacher/shell.aspx?filename=/teacher/lesson_plan_content_index.aspx&site_area=teacher)

[education.org/teacher/shell.aspx?filename=/teacher/lesson\\_plan\\_content\\_index.aspx&site\\_area=teacher](http://www.marcopolo-education.org/teacher/shell.aspx?filename=/teacher/lesson_plan_content_index.aspx&site_area=teacher)

**MERLOT:** <http://www.merlot.org/merlot/index.htm>

(MERLOT stands for Multi Media Educational Resources for Learning and Online Teaching.) Resources submitted by professional educators from a variety of institutions. See especially the what's new section for the latest educational resources:

**EXAMPLE USING MERLOT: Go to HUMANITIES ON THE LEFT and then VALLEY OF THE SHADOW**

What's New In Merlot: <http://www.merlot.org/merlot/whatsNew.htm>

**FREE EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS** and a few free textbooks as well:

<http://www.cnx.org>:

**CNX:** Connexions is a place to view and share educational material made of small knowledge chunks called modules that can be organized as courses, books, reports, etc.

Anyone may view or contribute: authors create and collaborate instructors rapidly build and share custom collections and learners may find and explore content

**Example: Introduction to researching Oriental Cairo:** <http://cnx.org/content/m12590/latest/>

**OR: NEW TEACHING METHODS:**

<http://cnx.org/content/col10333/latest/>

**TOP 100 Materials for EDUCATORS:** has lots of highly useful material for American

Literature: <http://www.assortedstuff.com/top101/>

**RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS (from U.S. CONSULATE, KRAKOW):**

<http://krakow.usconsulate.gov/studyus/resources-for-teachers.html>

**ALL LINKS WORK AS OF May 26, 2009**

**Compiled by IRO Stephen Perry, formerly the IRO in Cairo, Egypt from December, 2005 through September 2008.**