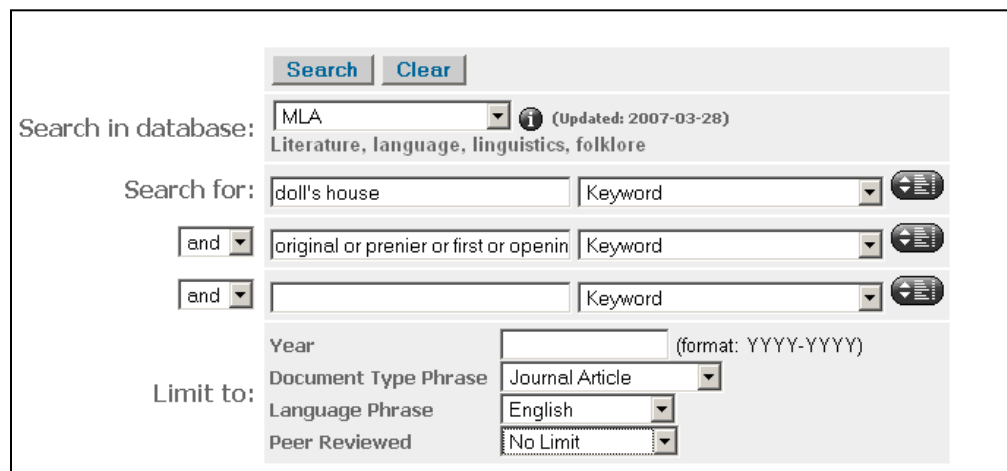


Research Databases

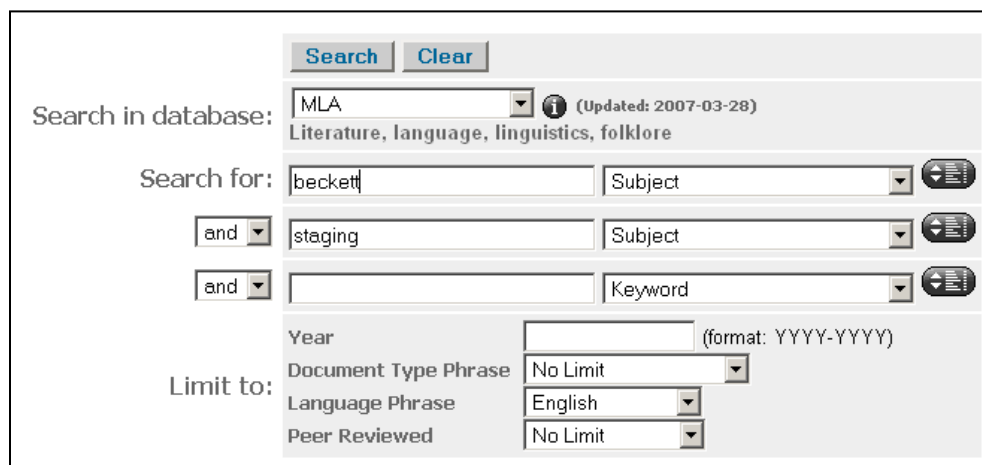


MLA Bibliography is a research database that lists citations to articles in literature and theatre journals. The articles listed in these databases have an icon that looks like  [Find Text](#). Clicking on this icon will help you find the article either full-text online or in a print journal in the Periodical section of the Library, or form another library via **Information Delivery Services**. Here is a sample search:



The screenshot shows the search interface for the MLA Bibliography database. At the top, there are 'Search' and 'Clear' buttons. Below them, the search is set to 'Search in database: MLA' (Updated: 2007-03-28) with the description 'Literature, language, linguistics, folklore'. The search criteria are: 'Search for: doll's house' (Keyword), 'and original or premier or first or openin' (Keyword), and 'and' (Keyword). The 'Limit to:' section includes: Year (empty), Document Type Phrase (Journal Article), Language Phrase (English), and Peer Reviewed (No Limit).

Another sample search:

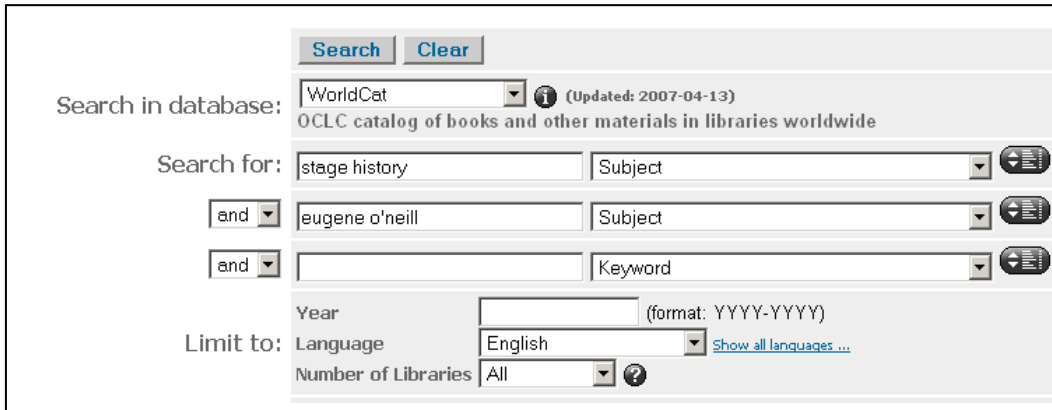


The screenshot shows the search interface for the MLA Bibliography database. At the top, there are 'Search' and 'Clear' buttons. Below them, the search is set to 'Search in database: MLA' (Updated: 2007-03-28) with the description 'Literature, language, linguistics, folklore'. The search criteria are: 'Search for: beckett' (Subject), 'and staging' (Subject), and 'and' (Keyword). The 'Limit to:' section includes: Year (empty), Document Type Phrase (No Limit), Language Phrase (English), and Peer Reviewed (No Limit).


There are other research databases that will help you find articles in scholarly journals and popular magazines. One database is called *Arts & Humanities Index*, another is *Academic Search Premier*. You can access these and hundreds of other research databases, from the Library web page by clicking on **Research Help – Resources by Subject**.



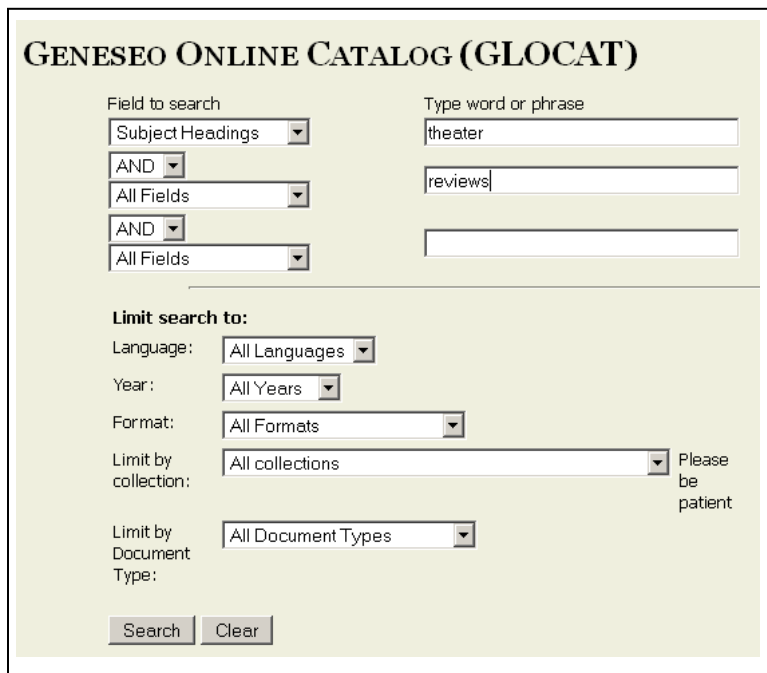
WorldCat is a database (catalog) that lists books available in thousands of other libraries. Many of these books can be obtained for you through **Information Delivery Services (IDS)**. Here is a sample search:



The screenshot shows the WorldCat search interface. At the top, there are 'Search' and 'Clear' buttons. Below them, the search database is set to 'WorldCat' (Updated: 2007-04-13), with a subtext 'OCLC catalog of books and other materials in libraries worldwide'. The search criteria are: 'stage history' in the 'Subject' field, 'eugene o'neill' in the 'Subject' field, and an empty 'Keyword' field. The 'Limit to:' section includes 'Year' (empty), 'Language' (English), and 'Number of Libraries' (All). A link 'Show all languages ...' is visible next to the language dropdown.

If you look closely at the resulting book citations, you will see this icon: . Clicking on it will open a box that includes the link to the **Information Delivery Services (IDS)** request form. Entering your SUNY Geneseo username and password will begin the process of requesting that the IDS office obtain the book from another library for you.

GLOCat is the database (catalog) that lists what we own here at SUNY Geneseo. You can find books (including ebooks) and you can also find out what journals we own. Here is a sample search:



The screenshot shows the GENESEO ONLINE CATALOG (GLOCAT) search interface. It features a search form with 'Field to search' (Subject Headings) and 'Type word or phrase' (theater). There are three search rows with 'AND' operators and 'All Fields' selected. The 'Limit search to:' section includes 'Language' (All Languages), 'Year' (All Years), 'Format' (All Formats), 'Limit by collection' (All collections), and 'Limit by Document Type' (All Document Types). A 'Please be patient' message is visible next to the collection dropdown. 'Search' and 'Clear' buttons are at the bottom.

You can use GLOCat to find indexes and books on theatre, including these that will be helpful when researching the first production of a play:

Theatre World - covers NYC Theatre seasons, 1945 to present, some years missing. **PN 2277 .N5**

New York Theater Critics – covers NY Theatre from 1961 to present. **PN 2000 .N76**

The London Stage – covers London theatre from 1660 to 1800. **ref PN 2592 .L6**

New York Times index – coverage starts in 1880. **LL Milne, near photocopiers.**

Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature – coverage begins 1880. **LL Milne 107/108**

Wellesley Index to Victorian Periodicals, 1824 – 1900. **LL Milne, near photocopiers.**


Poole's Index to Periodical Literature – covers 1802-1906. **LL Milne, near photocopiers.**



Historical Abstracts and *America: History and Life* are research databases that list citations to articles in history journals. *Historical Abstracts* covers European and Asian history, while *America: History and Life* covers the U.S. and Canada. Click on  to see if we have the full-text of the article. Here is a sample search:

SEARCH World history excluding US & Canada **Search** **Reset**

for in **Keywords**

for in **Subject Terms** 

for in **Authors / Editors** 

for in **Titles / Translations**

for in **Languages** 

for in **Journal Names** 

for in **Publication Dates**

for **AD** **AD** in **Time Periods** [expert]

for in **Entry Numbers**

limit to **Articles** **Books** **Collections** **Dissertations/Theses**

Research Hints!

There are several ways to approach the challenge of searching for information on the first production of a play:

- There may be a book or article that is recently published that recounts the details of the first production. Use *WorldCat*, *GLOCat*, *MLA Bibliography* and other scholarly databases to find these.
- You may have to settle for a book or article that discusses the stage history of a play. The beginning of such a book or article should include information about the first production. Use *WorldCat*, *GLOCat*, *MLA Bibliography* and other scholarly databases to find these.
- When you can't find the reviews of the first performance of a play: If it was in New York, the *New York Times Newspaper* is the best place to look. For other cities, you can try general magazine articles or newspapers from the city where the first production took place. Newspapers and magazines are "indexed" (i.e. you can look up a topic and find out the dates the articles appeared in various sources) in a variety of databases and print volumes, depending on the year the play opened. For pre-1985 productions, use the *New York Times Index* and the *Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature*. For more recent dates, try various databases such as *Academic Search Premier*, *ProQuest*, *MasterFile Select* or *Custom Newspapers*.
- You may find a reference book that reprints reviews of theatrical productions. Several examples are the *London Stage*, *Theatre World*, and *New York Theatre Critics*. Type these titles in *GLOCat* to find the call numbers of these books.
- General books on playwrights may give details of the first production of a play. Use *WorldCat* and *GLOCat*.
- Interviews with playwrights in the months following the first production of a play may include comments about it. Use *Academic Search Premier*, *ProQuest* and the other databases and research tools listed above for finding reviews.
- There may be accounts of the first production of a play on a 'free' web page, but they are difficult to find using general search engines like Google. Instead, use search tools aimed at a college audience. i.e.

Quick Guide to Theatre Web Sites: <http://www.towson.edu/~quick/rlqguide.html>

Infomine: <http://infomine.ucr.edu/>

Milne's reference librarians are always glad to provide research assistance. Appointments are arranged for most weekday hours when reference librarians are on duty.

Fill out and submit the research consultation request form at:
<http://eres.geneseo.edu/library/requests/requests/src.shtml>