

MUS 230 Opera and Media Research Tips (2023 Fall)

([go/mus230library/](https://go.middlebury.edu/mus230library/))

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Research as a Process

[What do you know about using the library?](#)

(Providing your name is optional!)

[PollEv.com/terrysmpkin542](https://pollen.com/terrysmpkin542)

OR

Txt **terrysmpkin542** to **22333**

OR



[Research Guide](#)

- Includes ways of thinking systematically about research
- Evaluating resources
- Scholarly vs. non-scholarly journals
- Primary vs. secondary resources
- Find an article and use the references!

Searching Library Resources

[MIDCAT](#)

- Books, CDs, Scores, Videos, Journals (on the title level)
- Does not include journal article level content
- Often useful for known item searching
- Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH) vs keywords vs genre headings
- LCSH is “aboutness” (e.g. this book is *about* opera); genre headings refer to “is-ness” (e.g. this score/recording/video *is* and opera)
- Some useful LCSH headings
 - Motion pictures and opera
 - Opera in motion pictures
 - Opera Houses --> Theaters
- Some useful Genre headings
 - Opera films
 - Adaptations AND Operas
 - Music theater (note: these are not “Musicals”, but combinations of music, dance, media, usually small scale and generally a 20th-century form)
- KEYWORD SEARCHING USING "d:"

ex.: d:theaters and opera = “theaters” in SUBJECT/GENRE area and “opera” anywhere in record

- OPERAs ON DVD
 - Browsable - M1500 in DVD section on main floor, by composer/title
 - Portable DVD drives available to borrow from the circulation desk

LibrarySearch

- Includes everything in MIDCAT, but content can be buried
- Also includes article (book chapter, etc.)-level content
- Keyword focused
- Filters can be used to narrow results
 - Subject narrowing
 - Peer reviewed
 - Available at Middlebury

Possibly Useful Reference Sources

- General
 - [Music Guide](#) - includes the next 4 resources
 - [Grove Music Online](#) - the preeminent English language music encyclopedia (part of Oxford Music Online)
 - [MGG Online \(Die Musik in Geschichte und Gegenwart\)](#) - German language music encyclopedia - use translator or use for work lists
 - [Oxford Music Online](#) - includes Grove Music, Grove Encyclopedia of Opera, Jazz, etc.
 - [RILM Abstracts](#) - indexes and abstracts articles. NOT full text, but music-focused
- Course specific
 - [Seltz, Herbert, Indiana University. Digital Library Program, and International Music Centre. *Televised Opera and Musical Comedy Database*. Indiana University Digital Library Program. Accessed September 19, 2023.](#) (database - note: citations, not full text)
 - [Sterling, Christopher H, and Cary O'Dell. *The Concise Encyclopedia of American Radio*. Hoboken: Taylor & Francis, 2009.](#) (ebook)
 - [Wlaschin, Ken. *Encyclopedia of Opera on Screen : A Guide to More Than 100 Years of Opera Films, Videos, and Dvds*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2004.](#) ML102.O6 W55 2004 (print)

Zotero

What does it do?

- Manage your citations
- Optionally store full text of articles (PDFs)

- Online (cloud) store with personal accounts (recommended)
- Connects with document software to make generating citations and bibliographies *much* easier

What doesn't it do?

- Correct errors in metadata
- Supply missing information/metadata
- YOU are still responsible for your citations - don't turn your brain off if you use Zotero

How?

- [Zotero Guide](#) - get started here
- [Zotero and MS Word](#)
- [Zotero and Google Docs](#)

Need more help?

- [go/askus](#)
- [go/terry](#)
- Research Desk in the afternoons and evenings (starting mid-semester), Sunday nights
- [go/illiad](#) - Interlibrary loan
- [go/requests/](#) - Ask us to buy stuff!