

A Research Guide to



Music



Finding Books: It's easy! The library's **online catalog** (library.plu.edu) provides access to the library's materials including books, cd-roms, & videos. Jot down the complete call number and obtain the book from the library's second and third floors. *Hint:* to identify the best possible subject headings for your topic, use the *Library of Congress Subject Headings* (a set of massive red books situated on a lectern in the library's reference section).

Examples of LC subject headings:

?? Music and literature
 ?? Conducting
 ?? School music -- Instruction and study
 ?? Vocal music
 ?? Rock music

Reference Books: Reference books are excellent places to **begin** your research. Need an overview of your topic? An encyclopedia article will give a terrific summary of (or introduction to) your subject area – and, at the end of the article, the bibliography will list books and articles for further reading and research. Below are some suggestions of reference materials for music:

Background Information

New Grove Dictionary of Music & Musicians (ref.ML100.N48) This 20-volume set is a comprehensive resource for music and musicians.

New Harvard dictionary of music (ref.ML100.N485 1986) An excellent scholarly dictionary for terms in music.

Music reference and research materials: an annotated bibliography (ref.ML113.D83 1997)
 A bibliography of materials used in the research of music topics. Some of the areas covered are "Individual Composers & their Music", "Histories and Chronologies," "Musical Instrument Collections", and "Dictionaries and Encyclopedias".

Specialized Information

Baker's Biographical Dictionary of Twentieth-Century Classical Musicians (ref.ML105.S612)

Harvard Biographical Dictionary of Music (ref.ML105.H38 1996)

International Dictionary of Black Composers (Ref.ML105.I5)

Norton/Grove Dictionary of Women Composers (ref.ML105.N66 1995)

Give information about the life and works of different musicians.

Baker's Dictionary of Opera (ref.ML102.O6B26 2000) Includes opera synopses, opera terms, opera characters, and biographies of composers & musicians.

Dictionary of Musical Technology (ref.ML102.E4C37 1992) Explanations of how equipment and principles work. Includes historical background.

Dictionary Of Western Church Music (ref.ML102.C5P77 1991) Material on terms and genres plus 80 substantive essays on significant composers.

Encyclopedia of Popular Music (ref.ML102.P66G84 1998) Information about composers, performers, and types of popular music. Does not ignore the initial article so look under “A” “An” or “The” for titles.

Garland Encyclopedia of World Music (ref.ML100.G16 1998) A huge project that is being released over several years, this multi-volume encyclopedia includes a CD-ROM in each volume. Volumes are by geographical area: Africa, Europe, etc.

Index To African-American Spirituals for the Solo Voice (ref.ML128.S4A27 1999) Title and first line index to songs set in the tradition of the Spiritual.

New Grove Dictionary of American Music (ref.ML101.U6N48 1986) Articles on individuals and topics germane to the American musical tradition.

Finding Articles in Periodicals & Journals:

Periodical indexes (including online databases) provide the most efficient subject access to journals, magazines & newspapers. Some of these indexes are print, and some electronic (online). Access the online resources from the PLU Library website (www.plu.edu/~libr/).

Note: Some electronic resources require your PLU ePass username and password.

To locate articles on topics related to music, use the following indexes:


Music Index Online -- An index to more than 655 international music periodicals that cover musicological or organological topics, plus book reviews, record reviews, first performances, and obituaries.	via PLU Library website
RILM Abstracts Of Music Literature Citations on international music produced by the Repertoire International de Litterature Musicale	ref.ML118.R4
International Index to Music Periodicals (IIMP) – Provides indexing and abstracts to over 370 currently published international music periodicals that cover nearly all aspects of the world of music. Also includes retrospective coverage from over 185 periodicals dating back as far as 1874. Not available off-campus	via PLU Library website http://www.plu.edu/~libr/articles/arts.html#IIMP
EBSCOHost Academic Search Premier – A multidisciplinary index covering more than 4,500 journals and newspapers. About 2,600 titles are full text scholarly publications.	via PLU Library website



Finding Journals: Many of the articles in the databases above are *not* full-text – in which case you need to find a *paper* copy of the journal containing your article. The library subscribes to hundreds of journals. The most recent issues are on the library's 1st Floor (south end). The older issues are shelved on the 2nd and 3rd floors by call number. Find the call numbers by searching *Journals at PLU* through the library's online catalog (library.plu.edu/). *Journals at PLU* also identifies which journals we have full text online

Websites:

PLU Library's website includes carefully researched lists of sites devoted to music. From the homepage, choose “Web Search” and then click on “Music” under “Fine Arts”
Or, go directly to:

 <http://www.plu.edu/~libr/web/music.html>

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