



Library resources for the ENG 3U Poets and poetry project

(Updated April 2015)

Primary sources

Nonfiction, 800 section (Canadian and American poets are together, organized chronologically, British poets separately, also in chronological order).

We have individual collections of poetry and/or criticism for over 65 major poets, and more poets are included in various anthologies. If you do a search of the poet's name in our library catalogue, some of these anthologies will appear in the results list, but not all (depending on the completeness of the record) so your best bet is to look at the index at the back of relevant anthologies yourself.

Secondary sources - print (in the library)

- collections of critical essays – in 800s
- literary analysis of a particular poet – in 800s
- general reference books, such as *The Oxford Companion to Canadian Literature* – in 800s and Reference Room
- history books that describe the poet's time periods – in 900 section
- encyclopedia entries – in Reference room
- biographies and autobiographies of specific authors – most are in the 800 section but some might be in 921 section of the non-fiction shelves

Secondary sources – online (library website = www.ccilibrary.ca)

Encyclopedias (access via the CCI library website – Research tab)

- *Encyclopedia Britannica* (login = simcodsb and password = simc7729)
- *Canadian Encyclopedia* (no password needed) – go here for Canadian poets you don't find in *Britannica*

Reference eBooks (access via the CCI library website – Research tab)

From InfoBase Publishing: (login = collingwoodci and password = owls)

Dictionary of Literary and Thematic Terms, History in Literature, Encyclopedia of Themes in Literature (all of these are also available in print in the library collection)

Databases (access via the CCI library website – Research tab)

- *Proquest Learning Literature* (login = collingwoodci and password = owls)
 - This is the first database to look at as its focus is literature. Most (though not all) of the major poets will be included here (biographical and critical info). This database is not as

user friendly as *eLibrary* (you can't sort your result list easily for example) BUT it does have lots of excellent info on authors.

- Includes *The Proquest Study Guide for Poetry* (in *Learning Literature* click on “study pages” on the left sidebar, then “Genre pages”, then “Poetry” for an overview of poetry as a form of literature, plus links to other resources both in and out of the database)
 - Includes the *Poets on Screen* resource:
 - “The Poets on Screen collection showcases contemporary poets reading selections of their own work and their favorite classic poems. . . Each Poets on Screen reading gives students the chance to see and hear one poet's interpretation of the work, prompting the discussion of what form alternative readings might take and how this reading has influenced their thoughts about the poem and other works they have studied.”
 - *eLibrary* (login = collingwoodci and password = owls)
 - This is a huge, all topics covered, kind of database so it is definitely worth exploring. It has lots of Canadian content (and you can even limit your search to Canadian publications). It does draw on literature specific resources, such as literary journals, as well as general interest resources that might also be of use.
 - Easy to use, to sort results, to create lists, email and print and share, built in dictionary, and citation information is provided already organized for you by MLA or APA standards!
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Other online research:

When doing a Google-style website search, **you must critically assess and evaluate the sites you visit before deciding to use them in an academic paper.**

- Is the site relevant, valid, authoritative, current, unbiased, and at an appropriate reading level for you? Is it updated regularly? Is the info you find here replicated in other places? Can you justify its inclusion as a source to your teacher?
- Who created the site and what are their qualifications to be considered experts? (avoid most .coms and any business site, personal blogs or websites with no author/creator info available; .govs, .edu and .org sites are more likely to be possibilities)

Two suggested websites for this project that you can definitely use:

- poetryfoundation.org (the website associated with the magazine, *Poetry*).
- *Library of Congress Archive of Recorded Poetry and Literature* at <http://www.loc.gov/collections/archive-of-recorded-poetry-and-literature/about-this-collection/>
 - Interviews with poets; poets reading from their works; mostly 20th century American (Elizabeth Bishop, Robert Frost, Gwendolyn Brooks for example) but does include a few others (like Margaret Atwood); new in 2015 and collection will continue to grow as they add newly digitalized resources from their collection.

Some Suggested Poets

(but your teacher must approve your choice so don't assume anything from this list!)

This is certainly not a complete list of poets worthy of study, as it only covers major 19th and 20th British, Canadian and American poets, but it is a good place to start. Feel free to suggest another name to your teacher. **Names in bold** mean that the school library has one or more books just on that individual poet (so at least a collection of their poetry and in many cases secondary material like critical essays or biographies as well).

BRITISH POETS

Arden, John
Arnold, Mathew
Auden, Wystan Hugh
Browning, Elizabeth Barrett
Browning, Robert
Blake, William
Burns, Robert
Byron, George Gordon
Coleridge, Samuel Taylor
Donne, John
Dryden, John
Elliot, T. S.
Hardy, Thomas
Hopkins, Gerard Manley
Houseman, A. E.
Keats, John
Lawrence, D. H.
Longfellow, Henry Wadsworth
Milton, John
Owen, Wilfred
Pope, Alexander
Sassoon, Siegfried
Shelley, Percy Bysshe
Tennyson, Alfred
Thomas, Dylan
Wordsworth, William
Yeats, William Butler

AMERICAN POETS

Angelou, Maya
Benét, William Rose
Bishop, Elizabeth
cummings, e e
Dickinson, Emily
Emerson, Ralph Waldo
Frost, Robert
Hughes, Langston
Jarrell, Randall
Plath, Sylvia
Poe, Edgar Allen
Pound, Ezra
Teasdale, Sara
Whitman, Walt

CANADIAN POETS

Atwood, Margaret
Avison, Margaret
Benson, Nathaniel
Birney, Earle
Brewster, Elizabeth
Carman, Bliss
Clarke, George Elliott
Cohen, Leonard
Crozier, Lorna
Drummond, William Henry
Dudek, Louis
Finch, Robert
Gottlieb, Phyllis
Hyland, Gary
Johnson, Pauline
Kennedy, Leo
Klein, A. M.
Kogawa, Joy
Lampman, Archibald
Layton, Irving
Livesay, Dorothy
MacEwen, Gwendolyn
MacPherson, Jay
Mandel, Eli
Newlove, John
Nowlan, Alden
Ondaatje, Michael
Page, P. K.
Pickthall, Marjorie
Pratt, E. J.
Purdy, Al
Saint Vincent Millay, Edna
Scott, Duncan Campbell
Scott, F. R.
Service, Robert
Smith, A. J. M.
Souster, Raymond
Waddington, Miriam
Wilkinson,

