



Theatre Resources Browsing Guide

Reference Department
Albert S. Cook Library

Cook Library Web Page
<http://cooklibrary.towson.edu>

The library catalog, lists materials available in the Cook Library as well as other libraries in the University System of Maryland. **The catalog** can be searched by **TITLE, NAME, or SUBJECT**. Advanced search features allow you to combine authors and titles in searches and limit by format and date. Books and other materials in the USM system are cataloged according to the Library of Congress Classification System.

It is always best to check **the catalog** for the exact call number of the items that you need. If you wish to just browse the literature collection for theatre items, here is a breakdown of some of the most popular sections for theatre students.

Handbooks to Specific Types of Drama

PA3131-3203: Ancient Greek theatre

PA6067-6083: Ancient Roman theatre

PN1972-1982: Puppetry

PN2921-2928: Japanese theatre, including Kabuki



General Works on Theatre

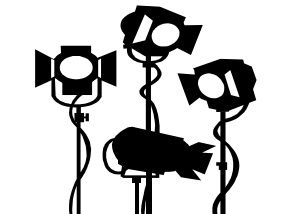
PN1600-1929: Drama criticism

PN2000: Theatre Annuals (serial titles like Theatre History Studies)

PN2037-2038: Essays and lectures on theatre

Stage Craft

PN2053: Directing and stage production



PN 2061: Acting technique

PN2067-2068: Costume design and makeup

PN 2085: Stage management

PN2091: Set design, lighting, properties



Theatre History

PN2101: General theatre history (chronologically by time period)

PN2220-2266: American theatre history

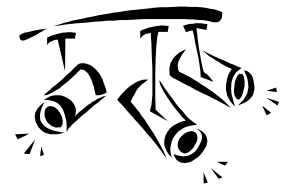
PN2285-2287: American theatre and film biographies

PN2581-2597: British theatre history

PN2598: British theatre and film biographies

PR625-739 English drama as literature (chronologically by time period)

PS332-352: American drama as literature (chronologically by time period)



Searching for Plays

The best and quickest way to search for a particular playwright or play is to use the **library catalog** and note the exact call number. The Library of Congress classification System separates books into very specific categories and is not meant for browsing. You will not find all the plays in one section of the library as you would in a public library. You may use the guide below to browse, but it does not cover every call number where plays are located. Use **the catalog** if you cannot find a particular play or playwright.

PA3626-4434: Ancient Greek plays and poetry arranged by author

PA6568-6768: Ancient Roman plays and poetry arranged by author

PL764-799: Japanese plays, including Kabuki and Noh

PN6111-6120: Play anthologies – collections of plays on a variety of themes from various playwrights

PN2080: Monologues

PR2751-2839: Shakespeare's works



PR1243-1272 Collections of English Drama &

PS623-634: Collections of American Drama – these two areas have collections of plays on specific topics and includes series like Gassner's Best American Plays

Tip: To find the works of a particular British or American playwright, you must think about the time period in which they were writing. Below is a breakdown of call numbers for British and American play locations showing the call numbers for each time period. Keep in mind that these sections contain not only playwrights, but also include poets, and novelists.

British Plays

Call number	Time period of author's writing career
PR2417-3195	English Renaissance 1500-1640
PR3300-3785	17 th & 18 th Century 1640-1770
PR4000-5925	19 th Century 1770-1900
PR6001-6049	1900-1960
PR6050-6075	1961 – present (current playwrights will be here)



American Plays

Call number	Time period of author's writing career
PS700-893	Colonial Period 17 th & 18 th Century
PS1000-3390	19 th Century
PS3500-3549	1900-1960
PS3550-3576	1961 – present (current playwrights will be here)

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