MLA International Bibliography
Provided by EBSCO and produced by the Modern Language Association, the MLA International Bibliography offers detailed bibliographic records of journal articles, books and dissertations. The database contains over 1.8 million citations from more than 4,400 journals and 1,000 book publishers. Citations can be found from the mid-1920s to the present. Also included in the bibliography are 60 titles from JSTOR’s language and literature collection, including links to the full text. Subject coverage includes dramatic art, folklore, language and linguistics, literature, and literary theory and criticism.

Basic/Advanced Search
The Basic Search interface is similar to all EBSCO database interfaces. You can enter the search phrase you have created, either using keywords or Boolean logic, and limit your search with a number of predefined limiters.

If you are interested in more complicated searching, click on the link for the Advanced Search. The Advanced Search for MLA allows you to combine terms using Boolean operators and select specific fields to search.

Search Tips
Phrase searching (“xxxx”) is utilized by MLA. However, if the phrase contains a “stopword,” most often an article or preposition, the results will contain variations on the stopword (e.g. if you were looking for the movie “In America” you might get results that include “On America,” “About America,” etc.).
The system will search for plurals and possessives of any singular term entered.

Wildcards are available from MLA. They include

- The asterisk (*) represents any number of characters including no characters at all at the end of a word. This is often referred to as truncation. There must be at least three letters preceding the asterisk.
  
  Ex. `environment*` matches:
  - environment
  - environments
  - environmental

- The question mark (?) represents any single character.
  
  Ex. `wom?n` matches:
  - woman
  - women

You can use Boolean operators to limit your search.

- **AND:** all terms in the search appear in the results
- **OR:** at least one term in the search appears in the results
- **NOT:** excludes terms from the search
- **():** groups words and phrases to show a relationship and the order in which you would like the search to be performed
- **W#** (with): searches for terms in the order listed in an article with no more than the number searched between them
- **N#** (near): searches for terms in any order listed in an article with no more than the number searched between them

To expand the terms you are searching for, click “Apply related words.”
**Thesaurus**
MLA provides a thesaurus for you to search to ensure you search using the proper terms. Articles are classified according to the terms used in the thesaurus. If you are not finding the results you think you should be getting, search the thesaurus for the word you should be using.

For instance, if I am interested in learning more about postmodern criticism, but I’m not getting the results I expect. If I enter “postmodern criticism” into the search field, I learn that the proper search term is “postmodernist literary theory and criticism.”

A thesaurus allows you to see the proper term to use as well as any broader or narrower terms that may be available by clicking on the word of interest.

You can also add the term to a search by clicking on the box next to the word, and clicking “add” near the top of the page. If you are interested in adding another term, use the thesaurus to search for that term, and add it to the search. You’ll notice the search box at the top populates with the terms.
When you have added all that you want, click search.
Search Results

There is a great deal of information contained on the search results page. If you see “PDF Full Text” or “HTML Full Text” you know that document is available to you in full text. Simply click on the link to the article.

Many articles are available in full text as either HTML or PDFs. Even though an article may not be listed as “Full Text” in the EBSCO database, there may be another database the library subscribes to that may have it. To determine if there is another full text option or to request the item through ILL, click the “Find It” button.

In the image above, the article listed is available in full text through Expanded Academic. The pertinent bibliographic citation information is filled in for you, so all you need to do is click “GO.” You are then taken to a PDF of the article, which you can choose to print or save. If the
document had not been available in full text through another database, you would have to request it through ILL. (See ILL instructions for how to do that.)

Exporting Multiple Records to EndNote

First, make sure you have your EndNote library open. To export records as a group, you need to have placed items in your folder by clicking on the “Add to folder” link under each article. Once you’ve added something to your folder, you’ll see it on the right side of the screen.

When you have finished marking everything you would like to export, click on the “Folder View” link under the “Folder has items” heading. You will be taken to a list of all the items in your folder.

1 EndNote filter information provided by St. Olaf College
(http://www.stolaf.edu/library/instruction/endnote/PCInstructions.html)
Mark the records you want to export, or if you want all of them, click on the check box at the very top of the list labeled “Select/deselect all.” Then, click on the icon with a piece of paper and green arrow. You will be taken to a window where you will choose which bibliographic citation software you are using. Select the radio button next to “Direct Export to EndNote…” If you want your folder to be emptied after the download, check the box “Remove these items…”

A dialog box will appear asking you what you would like to do with the file. Choose to open it.

The records will be downloaded into your EndNote library. You will see the “Imported Reference” group has records in it. Each time you import records, the previously downloaded records will be overwritten in this group, but they live in the “All References” group, so you are not losing any information. You can also confirm the proper number of records was downloaded.

**Exporting a Single Record to EndNote**

When exporting a single record to EndNote, click on the title link, which will take you to the full record. Click on the icon with a piece of paper and green arrow, and follow the instructions listed above for importing multiple records.