Listed below are a variety of print and web-based research resources helpful in answering all kinds of media reference queries. Researchers can find credits, synopses, or distribution sources for films and tapes; locate works by subject; find contact information for directors, actors, and other industry professionals; locate books and articles on specific films or videos, individuals, film history, or related subjects; or find general information on everything from film festivals to how to define a tracking shot. On pages 1-3 you will find resources organized by the type of question they are most helpful in answering. Full citations for the resources mentioned are on the bibliography that starts on page 4.

Most of these resources are available at NYU, although some of the print resources may be difficult to find. Go to http://library.nyu.edu/, select “Articles and Databases” then “Cinema Studies” under “databases by SUBJECT for links to many of the film-related electronic resources below.

**General** resources for any of the categories below:
- **Online catalogs** – Many library websites (see list on attached bibliography) will provide catalogs to individual library collections as well as access to electronic indexes of journal articles, CD-Rom collections, digital collections and other very useful resources; use of some of these resources may be restricted.
  The world’s largest network of library content and services. It includes the holdings of thousands of libraries around the world, and helps users find items located in nearby libraries. It is provided by OCLC Online Library Computer Center, Inc. on behalf of its member libraries.
- **ArchiveGrid** – At NYU go to [https://getit.library.nyu.edu/go/8232369](https://getit.library.nyu.edu/go/8232369)
  Database for primary resources such as manuscript collections, originally developed by Research Libraries Group (RLG), which merged with OCLC: [http://www.oclc.org](http://www.oclc.org) (accessed Sept. 13, 2013).
  Includes ArchivesUSA, an online directory of over 5,500 repositories and more than 161,000 collections of primary source material across the United States, compiled with the National Inventory Of Documentary Sources in the UK and Ireland (NIDS UK/Ireland); use may be restricted to subscribers. At NYU go to [http://ezproxy.library.nyu.edu:7435/home.do](http://ezproxy.library.nyu.edu:7435/home.do)
  A wealth of resources for film studies, including bibliographies and articles. Also includes invaluable list of sources for film reviews and criticism, with links to numerous databases licensed by UC: [http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/MRC/filmstudies/reviewslist.html](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/MRC/filmstudies/reviewslist.html) (accessed June 13, 2011)
- **Macmillan Film Bibliography** – references to pre-1980 books and book chapters on films, people, and subjects.
- **Periodical Indices** (see list below)

Specific research resources useful in locating information on **films**:
- **Film reviews** -- for credits, synopsis, reception on original release.
Available by subscription. At NYU it is available via Proquest Newsstand, Lexis-Nexis, and Proquest Historical Newspapers (go to “Articles and Databases”, and select “News and Newspapers under databases by CONTENT TYPE).

Available by subscription. At NYU it is available via Proquest and Lexis-Nexis; (go to “Articles and Databases”, and select “News and Newspapers under databases by CONTENT TYPE).

Lexis-Nexis Academic Universe – Available by subscription in large university libraries. At NYU go to: https://getit.library.nyu.edu/go/8232565

Jstor - Database of general periodical articles and citations; available by subscription or in large university libraries. At NYU go to https://getit.library.nyu.edu/go/8235114

Wilson OmniFile Full Text Mega. Aggregates numerous general periodicals, including many popular journals with film reviews. At NYU go to https://getit.library.nyu.edu/go/8235122

- American Film Institute Catalog - For lengthy credits and synopsis, subject keyword access, occasional citations to reviews; available by subscription. At NYU bundled with Film Indexes International under “Film Indexes Online.” Go to https://getit.library.nyu.edu/go/8232344
- Film Index International – Database of credits, synopsis, citations to reviews and articles; available by subscription. At NYU bundled with AFI Catalog under “Film Indexes Online.” Go to https://getit.library.nyu.edu/go/8232344
- Macmillan Film Bibliography – pre-1980 reviews and references to book chapters on films, people, and subjects.
- International Dictionary of Films and Filmmakers – "Films" volume includes credits, synopsis and critical essays as well as citations to books and articles.
May be less accurate/trustworthy than more scholarly sources but still offers a wealth of information.
- Periodical indices in print and electronic form:
  FIAF International Film Archive Database – Can be accessed by subscription from Ovid http://www.ovid.com or Proquest http://www.proquest.com (accessed Sept. 13, 2013) Includes International Index to Film/TV Periodicals, covering world film periodicals; 1972 – present. At NYU go to https://getit.library.nyu.edu/go/8232442
  Film and Television Literature Index – Indexes periodical literature published from 1973 to the present, with full text for many articles; available by subscription. At NYU go to “Articles and Databases,” select “Cinema Studies,” then select Film & Television Literature Index.
  Film Review Index – index to reviews and analysis from trade papers, periodicals and books, to 1985.
  The Film Index: a bibliography – citations to both books and articles on films; Pre-1940.
  International Dictionary of Films and Filmmakers –"Films" volume includes credits, synopsis and critical essays as well as citations to books and articles.

Information on a particular personality:
- Biographical Dictionaries:
  International Dictionary of Films and Filmmakers – Volumes on Actors and Actresses, Directors, and Writers and Production Artists all include brief biographical notes, bibliographies of articles by and about the individual, credits, and critical essays.
  A Biographical Dictionary of Film
The Film Encyclopedia

Who Was Who on Screen – Particularly useful for complete credits on lesser-known silent-era actors and actresses.

World Film Directors

• Periodical Indices (see list above)

Information on a film studio:

• Periodical Indices (see list above)
• New Historical Dictionary of the American Film Industry
• Macmillan Film Bibliography
• Motion Pictures, Television and Radio: a union catalog of manuscript and special collections in the Western United States
• Directory of International Film and TV Documentation Collections – on FIAF International FilmArchive Database.
• ArchiveGrid – (see above) At NYU go to https://getit.library.nyu.edu/go/8232369

Statistics:

• NATO Encyclopedia of Exhibition – http://www.natoonline.org/publications.htm (accessed Sept. 13, 2013); film exhibition statistics; demographics of theatergoers, statistics on studio releases by year, etc; very well organized.
• Lexis-Nexis Academic Universe – (see above) At NYU go to https://getit.library.nyu.edu/go/8232565
  Provides extensive information on the Hollywood film industry, statistics, contact information, etc; available by subscription.
• International Motion Picture Almanac – Some box office and industry statistics as well as brief biographical and filmographical information.
SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF MEDIA REFERENCE SOURCES

Although some of these sources are quite old, they may be the only resources for pre-1990 data, which is why they are included here and are still quite useful.

BIBLIOGRAPHIC GUIDES


BIBLIOGRAPHIES


INDICES


*FIAF international index to film periodicals – full text and FIAF international index to film periodicals – index.* [Online database]. Includes *International index to film/tv periodicals; Treasures from the film archives; International directory of film and television documentation collections; and Bibliography of FIAF affiliates’ publications.* International Federation of Film Archives (FIAF) & Proquest. At NYU go to https://getit.library.nyu.edu/go/8232442

*Film index international.* [Online database]. British Film Institute & Proquest. At NYU go to https://getit.library.nyu.edu/go/8232344

*Film & television literature index with full text.* [Online database]. EbscoHost. At NYU go to “Articles and Databases,” select “Cinema Studies,” then select *Film & Television Literature Index.*


*International index to the performing arts.* [Online database]. Chadwyck-Healey. At NYU go to https://getit.library.nyu.edu/go/8232463


**CATALOGS**

*American Film Institute catalog* [Online database]. American Film Institute and Proquest. At NYU go to https://getit.library.nyu.edu/go/8232344


*Motion picture scripts: A union list.* (1988--). Los Angeles: Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

**REVIEWS**


**BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARIES**


**DIRECTORIES**

*Players directory.* (formerly *Academy Players Directory*) [Online resource].
[http://www.playersdirectory.com](http://www.playersdirectory.com) (accessed Sept. 13, 2013); printed volumes available for purchase; online access available to industry professionals.


DISTRIBUTION AND FOOTAGE SOURCES


SUBJECT FILMOGRAPHIES


**ANNUALS**


**ENCYCLOPEDIAS AND GENERAL WORKS**


MEDIA RESOURCES ON THE WEB

There are thousands of media-related sites on the World Wide Web, ranging from databases of reviews and directories of industry personnel and events to film studio promotional sites and calendars for individual cinemas and festivals. Listed here is a small sampling of the kinds of resources available. (Some of these are also listed above.)

Database of reviews, press kits, festival and showcase program notes, newspaper articles, and other documents from the PFA Library's clippings files, the PFA Filmnotes - over 12,000 film notes from past PFA exhibition calendars, and the Pacific Film Archive Calendar - what's playing at the PFA. Also has online catalogs for BAM/PFA’s collections including films, videos, art, and books.

Film and Video Resources
The sites below include sources for locating reviews, credits, organizations, and industry personnel.

Voluminous database of films and biographies, searchable by genre, theme, keyword, date and country as well as title, personal and corporate name, and many other fields. Many records include synopses or reviews and note whether the film is available on DVD. Site now has merged All Movie and All Music guides and offers a host of new services including streaming.

Contact information for industry professionals, as well as credits, film synopses, bios, and awards. Available by subscription.

Annotated index of movie and TV sources designed to help users get a handle on the vast number of media-related web resources.

International film festival calendar, also programs and historical information.

Home page for the alternative cinematic experience. Includes links to many other sites concerning independent and experimental media.

Non-profit organization that “aims to inform, promote, encourage and mobilize the independent and grassroots media arts movement.” They publish the journal The Independent, as well as books on independent filmmaking and directories of distributors and festivals.

Features credits and synopses of thousands of films made from the beginning of the century to the present.
Links to over 750,000 film reviews on over 77,000 films. Includes links to many individuals’ sites, as well as publishers’ sites.

Created by the British Universities Film and Video Council, this site describes “websites that relate to moving images and sound and their use in higher education.”

Has a wealth of bibliographic information on film studies, including lists of books and articles by subject; links to periodical article databases, electronic cinema studies journals, film credits databases, and other web resources; information on distributors, and even some online video and audio works.

In addition to providing the electronic version of the trade paper Variety, this site offers links to many film production directories, statistical charts, and other industry sites, as well as a searchable archive of past Variety issues. Many features are only available by subscription.

Film and Video Distributors and Sources

A few major sources for film and video sales and rentals are listed below. Many additional distribution companies and video stores also have web sites. See the UCB Media Resources Center site (http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/MRC/Distributors.html) for an in-depth list of distributors. Also listed here are sites and union catalogs to help locate archival and historical film, as well as stock footage.

A number of distributors are now streaming media; NYU subscribes to several – to access them, go to “Articles and Databases” and click on “Video” under “databases by CONTENT TYPE.”

One of the largest rent-by-mail sources for contemporary and classic DVDs.

Provides access to the combined databases of 29 international stock, archival, and news footage collections. Collections include ABC News VideoSource, National Film Board of Canada, WPA Film Library, BBC Motion Gallery, NBC News Archives, and many others.

ITVS was established by Congress to help bring independently produced programs to television. The ITVS website includes information on home video and education distribution sources for many of the programs it has funded.

Catalog to their collection of over 30,000 network news broadcasts from NBC, ABC, CBS, and CNN, as well as 9,000 hours of special news-related programming. Available by subscription.
Moving Image Associations

Membership organization for individuals and institutions concerned with the preservation of moving images. AMIA holds an annual conference and works to develop standards and plans for national moving image preservation.

San Francisco membership organization for video and new media.

FIAF, the International Federation of Film Archives, brings together institutions dedicated to rescuing films both as cultural heritage and as historical documents. It holds an annual Congress; publishes tools to aid in film preservation, exhibition and study; and promotes the rescue, preservation, collection, and exhibition of moving images.

Libraries

Library websites provide a wealth of information beyond their own organization’s catalogs. Many will include numerous electronic resources, links to national and international union catalogs, digital image databases, online archives, and more.

Includes MELVYL, the online catalog for the entire University of California system, including online articles databases and reference works as well as the Online Archive of California - http://www.oac.cdlib.org/ and Calisphere - http://www.calsphere.universityofcalifornia.edu/ which provide access to archival finding aids and collections of digitized primary sources such as photographs, diaries, and cultural artifacts. Some databases are restricted to use by UC affiliates.


WorldCat is the world’s largest network of library content and services. It includes the holdings of thousands of libraries around the world, and helps users find items located in nearby libraries. It is provided by OCLC Online Library Computer Center, Inc. on behalf of its member libraries.

Additional Resources for finding films and media
(The following was compiled by Nancy Goldman and Linda Tadic, 2009; revised and updated by Nancy Goldman, June 2012)

In addition to directories of moving image archives around the world, this resource list includes sources for online access to digital copies of films and media and resources for collection development.
Two websites that link to moving image archives around the world are:

National Film Preservation Board list of Public Moving Image Archives and Research Centers
http://www.loc.gov/film/arch.html

FIAF Membership Directory
http://www.fiafnet.org/uk/members/directory.html

Many of the archives and non-profit institutions listed in the above directories provide access to information about their holdings through their online catalogs. Some of these institutions are also providing access to some streaming or downloadable content. See http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/MRC/onlinemediaoutside.html for links to numerous sites that stream video. A representative group of them is also included below.

Many companies are also providing streaming or downloadable access to films and television programs; these include Blockbuster, Netflix, Movieflix, HuluPlus, Amazon, and many others, as well as YouTube.

BBC Archive

Europa Film Treasures
http://blog.europafilmtreasures.eu/

European Film Gateway
http://www.europeanfilmgateway.eu/

Hulu.com and Huluplus
http://www.hulu.com/

Internet Archive: Moving Image Archive
http://www.archive.org/details/movies

http://www.loc.gov/rr/mopic/ndlmps.html

Shoah Foundation (University of Southern California)
http://college.usc.edu/vhi/

Ubu Web
http://www.ubu.com/

WSB Newsfilm Collection at the Walter J. Brown Media Archives and Peabody Awards Archive, University of Georgia:
http://www.libs.uga.edu/media/collections/newsfilm/index.html
Collection Development Resources

Media Reviews - in addition to popular sites such as Amazon, All Movie Guide, and the like, the following are particularly helpful in selecting works for library collections:

*Video Librarian*
http://www.videolibrarian.com/

*Educational Media Reviews Online*
http://emro.lib.buffalo.edu/emro/

*MetaCritic*
http://www.metacritic.com/

Listservs and Association websites

American Library Association's Video Roundtable
http://www.ala.org/vrt/
The VRT has a listserv open to VRT members; their email is available at
http://www.ala.org/vrt/professionalresources/vrtresources/videolistervs

The VRT also sponsors VideoNews, an unmediated clearinghouse of information on media products and services open to anyone; subscribe at
http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/MRC/vrtlists.html

**VideoLib** is a lively discussion board open to anyone; subscribe at
http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/MRC/vrtlists.html or read their archive of past posts at
http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/VideoLib/archive.html

Festival and festival awards sites

The Film Festivals Server
International film festival calendar, also includes programs, awards, social networking and historical information.
http://www.filmfestivals.com

International Documentary Association
Find their annual awards at
http://www.documentary.org/awards-home

AFI Docs (formerly Silverdocs)
Find their annual awards at
http://afi.com/afidocs/