This handout is a guide to library resources in the J. Murrey Atkins Library at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte, and is intended to help students find sources of criticism on the fiction of the British Restoration writer, Aphra Behn. The guide explains important reference sources in the Atkins library reference collection and how to find biographical and critical information in books and periodicals. The guide is organized in four sections: (1) Reference Books; (2) Books (on individual authors and their work); (3) Bibliographies on more than one author (sources of criticism—fiction); and (4) Periodical Indexes. (SR)
Compiled by Judith Van Noate
Reference Librarian
Reference Unit, Atkins Library, UNC-Charlotte

This guide is intended to help you find sources of criticism on the fiction of the British Restoration writer, Aphra Behn. It explains important reference sources in the Atkins library reference collection and how to find biographical and critical information in books and periodicals.

Note: additional information may be found in resources for dramatists, however, these are not included here.

It is arranged as follows:

1. REFERENCE BOOKS..........................1-3
2. BOOKS on individual authors and their work........4
3. BIBLIOGRAPHIES on more than one author
   (sources of criticism - fiction)...................5-6
4. PERIODICAL INDEXES........................7-14
REFERENCE BOOKS

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

If you are looking for information about an author and are not sure where to begin, or if you need some basic information about a type or genre of literature, the following are good sources.

Ref
PR
105
K9

British Authors Before 1800
A Biographical Dictionary

Excellent introductory article on Aphra Behn with a brief list of sources.

Ref
PR
85
C28
1983

The Cambridge Guide to English Literature

Biographical—a good concise overview if you are having trouble with where to start.

Ref
PR
21
H3
1983

The Oxford Companion to English Literature

This a good source of biographical information in dictionary format. Gives an overview of the author's life and work. Especially useful if you are not sure where to start with a topic.

There are many other "companions" and "encyclopedias" to the literatures of various nationalities in the reference collection. You can look in ALADDIN under the subheading "dictionaries." Example: Canadian literature--dictionaries; Australian literature--dictionaries.
BIOGRAPHICAL AND CRITICAL INFORMATION

Gale Literary Criticism Series

This group of reference works provides a comprehensive source for biographical and critical information on authors. Atkins Library owns all of the titles on this list except *Authors in the News*. The various volumes in the series cover Antiquity to the present. Use the following two titles for entries on Aphra Behn:

**Ref**  **Literature Criticism from 1400 to 1800**
**PN 86**
**L56**

Subtitled: "Excerpts from Criticism of the Works of Fifteenth, Sixteenth, Seventeenth, and Eighteenth-Century Novelists, Poets, Playwrights, Philosophers, and Other Creative Writers, from the First Published Critical Appraisals to Current Evaluations"

"Each author entry represents a historical overview of the critical response to the author's work: early criticism is presented to indicate initial responses, later selections represent any rise or decline in the author's literary reputation and describe the effects of social or historical forces on the work of an author, while retrospective analyses provide students with a modern view.

Entries include: biocritical introduction, list of principal works, criticism with complete citations, illustrations, annotated bibliography of sources for further research.

Aphra Behn is included in volume 1, pages 25-57.

**Ref**  **Dictionary of Literary Biography (DLB)**
**PN 451**
**D52 1978**

Biographical--a good overview of an author's life and work. Articles are fairly long. Selected volumes of the Dictionary of Literary Biography deal with authors of specific literary movements and genres. Aphra Behn is included in Volumes 39, Part 1, and 80.
The Chelsea House Library of Literary Criticism

A thirty-seven volume series designed to cover "the entire range of British and American literature." Entries include brief biographies and two longer sections of extracts and essays. Extracts are grouped into Personal, General, and Works categories and include material from "memoirs, interview and biographies, short theoretical statements and reviews of individual works." The essay sections are reserved for more extensive, in-depth studies. Full citations are given for both extracts and essays. There is a list of references for "Additional Reading" at the end of each volume.

Aphra Behn is included in:

Ref The Critical Perspective
PR 85 Twentieth-century criticism of English language
C76 authors whose major works predate 1904.
1985

Aphra Behn is in Vol. 4, Restoration-Early

Ref The New Moulton's: Pre-Twentieth Century
PR Criticism of British and American Literature
85 to 1904
N39 1995

Aphra Behn is in Vol. 4, Restoration-Early
Georgian, pages 1935-1942.

ADDITIONAL BIOGRAPHICAL AND CRITICAL SOURCES

Ref British Women Writers
PR 111 This is an important and up-to-date biocritical
B75 source for British women authors. Entries are
1989 one to several pages long and include lists of
major primary works and references for further
research.

Ref Magill: Critical Survey of Long Fiction
PR 821 This is a multi-volume set. It consists of long
C7 biographical and analytical entries with
1983 background information on the works and their

This might be really helpful in the beginning
stages of your research--gives excellent
introductions to an author's life and work.
BOOKS

BOOKS ON INDIVIDUAL AUTHORS

Although proper names for people and places, etc. are not included in Library of Congress Subject Headings, they can be used as subjects in ALADDIN or the card catalog. Therefore, to find biographies, books of criticism or bibliographies concerning the works of a specific author, simply type s/ (for a subject search of that author), and then enter the author's last name, first initial. At this point, scan the list of entries until you find the appropriate subheading (for example --bibliography, --criticism and interpretation, --biography).

Example: s/behn, aphra

J. Murrey Atkins Library -- - - VTLS/ALADDIN -- - - - - - - SUBJECTS
YOU SEARCHED: s/behn, aphra

1> 2 Behn, Aphra, 1640-1689.
2. 2 Behn, Aphra, 1640-1689 -- Bibliography.
3. 1 Behn, Aphra, 1640-1689 -- Biography.
4. 1 Behn, Aphra, 1640-1689 -- Criticism and interpretation.
5. 1 Behn, Aphra, 1640-1689. Oroonoko.
6. 1 Behn, Aphra Amis, 1640-1689.
7. 1 Behn, Ayfara, 1640-1689.
8. 1 Behn, Madame (Aphra), 1640-1689.
9. 1 Behn, Mrs. (Aphra), 1640-1689.

INDIVIDUAL BIBLIOGRAPHIES

If you are doing in depth research on an author, the best place to begin your search is with a bibliography devoted to the work of that author. Bibliographies will frequently be divided up by the titles of poems, stories etc. and will direct you to criticism on a particular work. Disadvantages are that bibliographies may not be up to date; you will need to use additional sources if you need recent or current criticism. Also, they are not available on every author.

Use ALADDIN to find bibliographies concerning the works of a specific author. Type s/ (for a subject search for books about an author), and then enter the author's last name and first initial. Example: s/behn, aphra

At this point, scan the list of the author's name and birth (and death) dates for the subheading --bibliography:

J. Murrey Atkins Library -- - - VTLS/ALADDIN -- PUBLICATIONS ON SELECTED SUBJECT
YOU CHOSE: Behn, Aphra, 1640-1689 -- Bibliography.

1. Aphra Behn: an annotated bibliography of primary and....... O'Donnell, Mary Ann. 1986
2. Four Restoration playwrights: a reference guide to Thomas... Armistead, J. M. 1984
BIBLIOGRAPHIES ON MORE THAN ONE AUTHOR

These will be useful primarily for finding information on writers of fiction. They consist of lists of references to criticism in periodical articles, books and essays.

Ref  English Fiction, 1660-1800
Z  2014 A guide to collected works, individual works, bibliographies, biographies, critical studies and commentaries. See the index for a complete list of entries on this author.
F5 B42

Ref  The English Novel: 1578-1956
Z  A Checklist of Twentieth-Century Criticisms
2014 F4 B4 Arranged in alphabetical order by author, with works arranged underneath.

Note: there is only one reference in this guide to Aphra Behn's Oroonoko, but it might be the exact one you need.

Ref  The English Novel Before Richardson
Z  A Checklist of Texts and Criticism to 1970
2014 F4 F4 Contains a substantial list of references on Aphra Behn. Abbreviations for sources cited are listed in the front of this bibliography.

Ref  English Novel Explication
2014 F5 P26 Use for major authors. Gives references to critical articles in books and journals. Arranged alphabetically by author and then by title of novel. Updated by supplements. Entries are extensive. This is an excellent source to use for in-depth research on Aphra Behn. She is included in the original volume and most of the supplements.

Ref  Magill's Bibliography of Literary Criticism
Z  6511 M25 This is an excellent source for criticism. Arranged by author with individual works arranged under author entries. Four volumes; title index in volume 4.
This source evaluates biographies and critical sources available on specific authors. Note; that it was published in 1985. Additional sources may have been published since this time. Still, a useful source, especially if you are doing in-depth research on an author.

**BIBLIOGRAPHIES ON WOMEN AUTHORS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ref</th>
<th>Bibliography of Women and Literature</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Z</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>A comprehensive guide to articles and books written between 1974 and 1981 on women authors writing in English. The &quot;Index of Authors&quot; (pp. 319-342) gives entry numbers for specific writers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>W65</td>
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<td>1982</td>
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<td>B66</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

There are several pages of entries on Aphra Behn. This will be useful for finding sources written prior to 1981.
PERIODICAL INDEXES

Most journals are indexed in one or more periodical indexes. Indexes range from the very broad in scope to those more specialized by discipline. Indexes are generally arranged alphabetically by subject; relevant citations follow each heading. The citation includes:

- Author(s) of the journal article
- Title of the journal article
- A list of abbreviation is located in the front of the index volume
- Volume number, and if available, issue number of the journal
- Page(s) on which the article appears
- Date of the journal

Juggling the categories of race, class and gender. Aphra Behn's Oroonoko. M. W. Ferguson. *Women's Stud* 19 no2:159-81 '91

- Page(s) date
- Title of journal (abbreviated)
- Volume number
- Author of article
- Il=illustrations
Annual Bibliography of English Language and Literature (ABELL) V. 1- 1920-

This index is useful for in-depth research. It indexes journals, bulletins, newsletters, etc. Arranged chronologically. Look in the table of contents for the sections labeled "Britain--Restoration and Enlightenment."

Aphra Behn

5285. BEHRMANN, ALFRED. Aphra Behn's The Emperor of the Moon: anatomy of a 'European' comic play. YREAL (2) 1984, 239-74.
5287. DULCQ, BERNARD. Oroonoko: expérience et création. In (pp. 41–6) 34.
5288. GOREAU, ANGELINE. Aphra Behn: a scandal to modesty (ca.1640-1689). In (pp. 8–27) 20.

INDEX

Abstracts of English Studies
v. 1-21 1958-78 (22 1978-79) 23- 1979-
1
A2

This is a quarterly index to articles (with short abstracts) dealing with American and English literature.

You find the author's name in a cumulated "Index C" in the back of each volume. Periodical abbreviations are explained in "Index A".

Atkins Library subscribes to many of the journals indexed in this source.

144 Britain 1660-1800

selections from his work: The Judgement of Mr. Baxter concerning Ceremonies and conformity (1667); Much in a Little (1678); Mr. Baxter's Vindication of the Church of England (1682), and Mr. Richard Baxter's Last Legacy (1696).
J.S.P.

Aphra Behn

86-883. Spengemann, William C. The Earliest American Novel: Aphra Behn's OROONOKO. NCF, 38, 4. 1984, 384-414. Oroonoko deserves inclusion in courses about early American literature — primarily because it is the earliest example of America in literature. Behn uses a narrative form crafted to register changes in the shape and meaning of the world and in human history. changes resulting from the discovery of America. Combining the old world of romance and the new world of her reader, she unconsciously discovered the "combination of language, structure, theme, narrative mode, and a vision of human history that we now associate with 'the novel'."

G.A.
An index to approximately 400 British magazines and journals in the humanities and social sciences. Atkins Library takes a significant portion of these. However, you may need to use Interlibrary loan to obtain some articles listed here.

Another excellent source for articles on Aphra Behn.

Behn, Aphra

Gender and narrative in the fiction of Aphra Behn. [Examines strategies with the narrator in Behn’s fiction, with full analysis of role of narrator in Oroonoko; argues that the narrator is a subtle part of Behn’s treatment of issues of gender and power]. Jacqueline Pearson. R. of English Studies, 42 (Feb 91) p.40-56. refs.


Rebellions Antidote: a new attribution to Aphra Behn. [Identification of piece of political “doggerel” by Behn, which indicates a position which is moderate and loyalist rather than stridently royalist]. Janet Todd and Virginia Crompton. Notes and Queries, 38 (Jun 91) p.175-7. refs.

Reworking male models: Aphra Behn’s Fair Vow-Breaker, Eliza Haywood’s Fantomina, and Charlotte Lennox’s Female Quixote. [Examines three early women’s texts for possible encoding of female discourse within an otherwise conventional work and finds that female novelists manage to topple male stereotypes of women]. Catherine A. Craft. Modern Language R., 86 (Oct 91) p.821-38. refs.


This is an important bibliographical index to collections of essays in books. The emphasis is on the humanities and the social sciences. Material under a person (author, etc.) is arranged as follows: 1. Author's works; 2. Works about the author (biographical or overall discussions of his/her work); 3. Criticism. Semiannual with a permanent cumulation every five years.

Behn, Aphra, 1640-1689

About

Diamond, E. Closing no gaps: Aphra Behn, Caryl Churchill, and empire. (In Caryl Churchill: a casebook; ed. by P. R. Randall p161-74)
Messenger, A. Novel into play: Aphra Behn and Thomas Southerne. (In Messenger, A. His and hers p41-70)
Spencer, J. Three self-portraits. (In Spencer, J. The rise of the woman novelist p41-74)
Cumulative index to English-language periodicals. Author and subject entries are in one alphabet. It includes language and literature subjects as well as other humanities areas.

This is an excellent index for articles on Aphra Behn.

Behn, Aphra, 1640-1689 about
Gender and narrative in the fiction of Aphra Behn
Juggling the categories of race, class and gender: Aphra Behn’s Oroonoko. M. W. Ferguson. ll Women's Stud 19 no2:159-81 '91
Reworking male models: Aphra Behn’s Fair vow-breaker, Eliza Haywood’s Fantomina, and Charlotte Lennox’s Female Quixote. C. A. Craft. Mod Lang Rev 86:821-38 O '91
The seduction of Aphra Behn. N. Jacobs. bibl Women’s Stud 18 no4:395-403 '91
"That which I dare not name": Aphra Behn’s The willing mistress. B. Duyfhuizen. ELH 58:63-82 Spr '91
"The vile merchandize of fortune": women, economy, and desire in Aphra Behn. M. Lussier. bibl Women’s Stud 18 no4:379-93 '91
This is a major index to books and articles published on modern languages, literature, folklore, and linguistics.

Part 1 is arranged by country or type of literature and then by period and author. Volume I contains citations to British and American literature; Volume II covers Romance and other non-English language authors.

From Part 1, Volume I

Fiction

[1911] Payne, Linda R. "Genre and Gender: Women as Writers of Prose Fiction and Drama in Restoration and Early Eighteenth Century England." DAL. 1991 May; 21(11): 3757A. U of Delaware. DA9109930. [Restoration period. Compared to Cavendish, Margaret; Duchess of Newcastle; Fitz, Mary; Manley, Delariviere. Dissertation abstract.]


Novel


Novel/The History of the Nun (1689)


Novel/Oroonoko (1689)

[1915] Ferguson, Margaret W. "Juggling the Categories of Race, Class and Gender: Aphra Behn's Oroonoko." WS. 1991; 19(2): 159-81. [Treatment of race; social class; gender.]

Poetry


12
MLA
Part 2 is arranged in alpbrabetical order by subject and serves as an index to part 1. In the examples below, the Roman numeral refers to the volume of Part 1 and the rest of the number to the specific entry.

Part 2 indicates the CLASSIFIED section in PART 1 for a give author or entry and also lists entries that will not be found directly under the author's name. Full citations are in Part 1.

BEHN, APHRA (1640-1689)
See also classified section: 1:1904 ff.
Philips, Katherine. Compared to BEHN, APHRA; Finch, Anne, Countess of Winchilses. 1:2306.

NOTE: Prior to 1981 MLA was a one volume index and was arranged somewhat like Part 1 is now. There was no subject index. You need to know the country and language appropriate to the author and then look alphabetically by his or her name. Subject entries come before author entries in each division.

Here is an example from the 1972 edition:

MLA on CD-ROM

The easiest way for you to search for recent journal articles on the works of an author or a literary topic will be to use the computerized version of MLA International Bibliography. The volumes since 1981 to within a few months of the present are available in CD-ROM format (compact disk, read only memory). This version of the MLA contains a year or so more information than the printed index. You may search by author, title of work, and by keyword. Two keywords, such as an author's last name and a theme or an identifying word from a title or theory, may be combined using "boolean" commands ("and," "or"). You will not need to search on the word "criticism" because just about everything in the index refers to criticism.

You may limit your search by language, by publication type, and by date of publication. There is a handout near the machines which explains how to use the various searching strategies. You will need to make an appointment in advance to use MLA on CD-ROM. You will also need a current ID card and a "clean" record in ALADDIN. Call (547-2241) or stop by the reference desk to make an appointment. If you need assistance a librarian will help you.

Notes and WORD OF WARNING:

1. Both the printed and the computerized versions of the MLA International Bibliography contain references to books and doctoral dissertations as well as to articles. Atkins library does not have any of the dissertations. These will be listed as DAI in the printed version and Dissertations Abstracts International in the computerized version of the index. You can limit a search in the computer to find references by a specific publication type, for example, periodical articles and books, but not dissertations. The books listed are books of essays. Check for them in ALADDIN by the title of the book (not the book chapter) or by the editor's name (This comes after the word "IN" in the CD version). Also, there are many foreign language articles in the index. You can also limit your search by language when using the CD (For example: enter the phrase $l_a$=english. Combine this with your results from you search.). The library does not own all of the items referenced in the MLA. If we do not have the source you need, you may try to get it via Interlibrary Loan (this takes 2 to 4 weeks).

2. Finally, do not depend on either version of the MLA for all of your research. In many if not most cases, there will be better and easier-to-locate sources of information in books and reference books. The MLA is important for recent information. However, the MLA (both printed and CD ROM versions) is not the best source for authors who have themselves recently (the time will vary) started publishing. If you do not find much about a new author in this source try InfoTrac, or, try Book Review Index or Book Review Digest.