Resources for Creative Writing 118—"Image into Scene"
Cynthia H. Comer, Reference & Instruction Dept., Oberlin College Library

FINDING BOOKS AND OTHER LIBRARY MATERIALS

**OBIS** is the Oberlin College Library’s online catalog; it lists most library materials. The **OhioLINK Library Catalog** combines the holdings of 90 libraries at colleges and universities—and through SearchOhio, those of an additional 20 public libraries—across Ohio. Both can be searched by **Author** or **Title** for a specific author or work, or by **Subject Heading** or **Keyword** for works about a topic, person, place, etc. To borrow OhioLINK materials, click on “Request this item” and follow the instructions. (“Barcode” is the number on the back of your OCID.)

**Subject Heading searches:** selected useful Library of Congress Subject Headings

- Oberlin College
- Birds – Ohio
- Trees – Ohio
- Oberlin (Ohio)
- Geology – Ohio
- Wild flowers – Ohio
- Lorain County (Ohio)
- Natural history – Ohio
- Ohio – Climate

☞ choose Advanced Search for more search flexibility

- lorain county and (agricultur* or land use or farm* or rural* or... etc.)
- oberlin and (transport* or transit or train or trains or streetcar* or bus or... etc.)

LOCAL PUBLICATIONS


Full disclosure: digital archive has a quirky search engine!

Main Oversize LD4177.H5, 2nd copy in Special Collections

Oberlin College yearbook; includes class-year photographs, clubs, academic departments, significant events, etc. Primarily photographs. Earlier years may include indexes.

*Oberlin Alumni Magazine.* 1904–present.
Shelved in Main Periodicals, 2nd floor south side, Mudd

Two card file indexes are available in the Goodrich Room on the 4th floor: 1904-1957 and 1958-~1994? (through at least vol. 90, no. 2, Summer 1994). Articles about college events, activities, and initiatives, as well as human interest stories about alumnae, faculty, and staff.

*Oberlin News-Tribune.* 1860–present under various publishers and titles

Main Reference NA735.O3B56 1985 (check OBIS for additional copies)

*Westwood: A Historical and Interpretive View of Oberlin’s Cemetery.* Oberlin, OH: Oberlin Historical and Improvement Organization, 1997
Main Reference F499.O262 W4 1997


LOCAL HISTORY AND LOCAL INFORMATION WEB SITES

Developed by a group of volunteers to enhance the teaching of local history in elementary and secondary schools. This web site is no longer actively maintained.

Oberlin Heritage Center, http://www.oberlinheritage.org  
A nonprofit museum, historical society, and historic preservation organization whose mission is to preserve and share Oberlin’s unique heritage and to make it a better place to live, learn, work, and visit.

City of Oberlin, http://www.cityofoberlin.com  
The official website for the City of Oberlin. The city’s “Oberlin 2025” strategic plan (under City Government/City Manager) is chock full of interesting data and tidbits.

Oberlin Business Partnership, http://oberlin.org  
An nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote the sustainable growth and prosperity of the Oberlin Community. Membership includes individuals, businesses, and community organizations.

Oberwiki, http://oberwiki.net  
A cooperative web site about Oberlin that anyone can edit; it’s not clear how active this site is currently. (Wikipedia’s entries for “Oberlin College” and “Oberlin, Ohio” are also useful.)

Oberlin Environmental Dashboard, http://www.oberlindashboard.org  
Provides real-time feedback on water and electricity consumption to encourage citizens to conserve resources and improve the ecological health of our bioregion.

About Oberlin, http://new.oberlin.edu/about/index.dot  
Oberlin College’s introduction to Oberlin gives a fun and informative overview.

State & County QuickFacts, http://quickfacts.census.gov  
The U.S. Census Bureau’s web site gives overview statistics of the City of Oberlin; follow the “Browse data sets for Oberlin (city)” link for even more data!

GENERAL HISTORIES OF OBERLIN

☞ Check OBIS for location/availability of additional copies of all these titles


Leonard, Delavan L. The Story of Oberlin: The Institution, the Community, the Idea, the Movement. Boston: Pilgrim Press, 1898. Main Reference LD4168 .L5 1898a


**NATURAL HISTORIES OF OBERLIN AND THE SURROUNDING AREA**


*Ohio's Natural Heritage*. Columbus: Ohio Academy of Science, 1979 Sci Oversize F491.O398

**OHIO FIELD GUIDES**


*Ohio Trees*. Science Library QK484.O3D3


**USING THE OBERLIN COLLEGE ARCHIVES**

The Oberlin College Archives contains a vast and varied collection of rare, original, and reproduced materials in printed, electronic, and digitized formats. It holds the permanently valuable records of the institution as well as those of individuals, families, and organizations affiliated with the college, the Conservatory of Music, and the city of Oberlin. Records offer details about student life, maps, master plans, art and architecture, and much more.

Main web page: http://www.oberlin.edu/archive/index.html
Search finding aids: http://www.oberlinlibstaff.com/archon/index.php?
Browse finding aids: http://www.oberlin.edu/archive/holdings/finding/index.html
Student publications: http://www.oberlin.edu/archive/holdings/finding/RG19/SG00/S1/inventory.html
USING DATABASES TO FIND ARTICLES IN SCHOLARLY JOURNALS

Connect from Databases tab on the library home page search box, or use the Quick Links drop-down menu

Academic Search Complete

Indexes articles from 8,000+ general and academic periodicals in all disciplines; over 80% of the journals indexed are peer-reviewed; almost 60% of the journals indexed include full text.

America: History and Life. 1964-present.

Indexes articles from 2,000+ journals on history and culture of the United States and Canada from prehistory to the present.

SUMMON — default tab on library home page search box

• searches across the spectrum of library content: books, scholarly articles, newspapers, data, audio, video, images, government documents, and more; searches many, but not all, library resources
• draws from OBIS, OhioLINK, many full text and article indexing databases, and digital repositories from colleges, universities, research centers, and other open-access archives
• comprehensive or complex searches should be done in subject specific databases
• OBIS and OhioLINK are generally better for finding books
• if links don’t lead to full text, be persistent or ask for help; we probably do have access

HOW TO GET RESEARCH HELP AT THE LIBRARY

Drop-in help at the Research Desk. Just stop by and tell us what you need

Monday–Thursday: 10am–noon, 1–5pm, & 7pm–midnight
Friday: 10am–noon & 1–5pm
Weekend: Sat.: 2–4 pm, Sunday: 1–5pm & 7 pm–midnight

IM. Chat online with a member of Oberlin’s reference staff (ObieRef) – hours same as above

Phone. 440-775-5031 – hours same as above

Email. reference@oberlin.edu – any time

Research appointment. Sign up online