

## **Film Genre and Directors Pathfinder**

### **General Advice for Researchers**

Real research takes time. It is unlikely (and undesirable) that you will find one source to answer all of your questions. Real research involves exploring multiple resources from a variety of sources to gather the best and most relevant information. Using the internet for research is different from using the internet for social media. Take your time and explore.

### **Starting Points**

These books are available in our school library and are great starting points if you are unsure of which genre or director to select.

*501 Movie Directors* by Steven Schneider 791.430233 FIV

*The Film Encyclopedia* by Ephraim Katz 791.4303 KAT

### **Other Circulating Works**

Our school library contains many print sources on film genres and directors. Both the general reference books and the books on specific genres and directors begin with the Dewey decimal number 791.43.

Some must consult titles include:

*Eyewitness Companions: Film* by Ronald Bergan (791.43 BER)

Start with this book before looking anywhere else. It has information about every genre.

*Fifty Hollywood Directors* by Yvonne Tasker (791.430233 FIF)

*Movie makers: 50 iconic directors from Chaplin to the Coen brothers* by Ian Freer

(791.430233 FRE)

*A-Z Great Film Directors* by Andy Tuohy (791.430233 TUO)

*Film Genre: Hollywood and Beyond* by Barry Langford (791.436 LAN)

*The Film Genre Book* by John Sanders (791.436 SAN)

## Keywords/Phrases/Subject Headings

Expand your search terms beyond the words “film” and “movie.” Here are some synonyms that will be helpful in your research:

cinema

“motion picture”

“moving picture”

“moving images”

Be sure to use quotation marks as indicated to get the best search results.

## Online Subscription Resources

When searching in an encyclopedia, online or print, use the keyword “motion picture” or the director’s name.

## Our School’s Resources

### 1. Britannica School <http://www.school.eb.com>

login: dsbyork

password: dsby7692



Start your search with the keywords “motion picture”. The result is an extensive entry which includes links to other entries on specific genres. You can also do a search for an entry on a specific genre, such as “horror film”. You can access this resource from anywhere you have an internet connection.

### 2. Gale Database: Pop Culture Studies

Use this database to search for articles in the journals *Screen* and *CineAction*.



You can also do a subject guide search for “movie genres.” You may also do a subject guide search for a specific genre, such as “musical movies” or “animated movies.” Be sure to narrow your results further by clicking on the Topic Finder option.

### 3. Ebsco Host Database

Search for “film genre”.



#### Specific Web Sites

Museum of the Moving Image: Moving Image Source

<http://www.movingimagesource.us/research/guide/84>

The Library of Congress, Motion Picture and Television Reading Room: The Moving Image Genre-form Guide <http://www.loc.gov/rr/mopic/migintro.html>

This is an example of a site that is found when you try search terms beyond the words film and movie.

This is an excellent resource for information on a wide variety of genres. Warning: in times of an American government shutdown, this site is not available.

#### Video Resources/DVD/Streaming Video

National Film Board of Canada [www.nfb.ca](http://www.nfb.ca)

A great place to watch films, especially for those of you researching animation or documentary films.

Moving Image Archive <https://archive.org/details/movies>

This could be a good place to watch films in your selected genre, especially older ones

#### Additional Advice to Researchers

Remember to keep track of your sources, recording all the information you will need for your embedded citations and Works Cited. Forms for tracking your research are available at the circulation desk and on the library website.

Also remember that most of you are beginning with a very broad genre and will probably have to narrow your focus to a clearly defined sub-genre. As you research, consider how you will be applying what you learn to the creation of your final media product.

Finally, remember that real research takes time. The research you are doing here is different than looking up the weather or a movie time online. Take your time to explore.