Companions and Guides to American Studies

Canterbury Christ Church University Library has many scholarly monographs containing chapters by renowned academics. They are shelved according to geography, genre or period. Many of the volumes are reference only, although in some cases they are available for 7 day and 4 week loans. Here are some key titles that will be of use to American studies students.

**Cambridge Histories**

Search for “Cambridge History American” in LibrarySearch and limit your search to “Only Show Library Results”. Look at the Table of Contents where available to find out more about the content. Topics covered include:


**Cambridge Companions**

Search for “Cambridge Companion American” in LibrarySearch and limit your search to “Only Show Library Results”. Look at the Table of Contents where available to find out more about the content. Topics covered include:

American novelists, American Judaism, American modernism, transnational American literature, American crime fiction, modern American culture, Native American literature, slavery in American literature, Latina/o American literature, American Gay and Lesbian Literature, the literature of the American South, American fiction after 1945, African American women’s literature, the African American slave narrative, the African American novel, American realism and naturalism, Malcolm X, the literature of Los Angeles, the literature of New York, Frederick Douglass, Thomas Jefferson, Bob Dylan, Toni Morrison.

**Cambridge Introductions**

Cambridge also produce a series of “Introduction to” authors and genres. If you type “Cambridge Introduction to” in LibrarySearch and limit to books you can view the available titles. Topics covered include:


**Oxford Histories, Companions and Handbooks**

Oxford University titles are also available on American history, American literature, American philosophy and the American West. Try searching “Oxford American”

The *Norton Anthology of American Literature* is also a respected source.
Bloom’s Major Novelists

Harold Bloom, the American literary critic and Sterling Professor of Humanities at Yale University, has written several literary criticisms, and edited hundreds of anthologies for Chelsea House publishing. If you search Bloom on LibrarySearch and limit your search to author, you will see a selection of his works. Here are some of these titles:


Using the Table of Contents

If we look at the table of contents for the Cambridge Companion to American Literature on LibrarySearch we discover that the chapter on Harriet Beecher Stowe was written by Arthur Riss. Using this information, we can then find articles by Arthur Riss on LibrarySearch by doing a search on his name. This leads to an article in the American Quarterly on “Racial essentialism and family values in “Uncle Tom’s Cabin.” 46 (4): 513-544. We can be confident that this article is scholarly.

Where to go for further help

Your Learning and Research Librarian will be able to help you.

E-mail learning.research.support@canterbury.ac.uk to arrange a convenient time to meet.