Library

Finding 19th century literature

review material

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# Introduction

There are various online databases that you can use to identify and view 19th century review material. This guide will explain what they are and how to use them.

# British Periodicals Collection

**What is it?:** This database provides access to the searchable full text of hundreds of periodicals from the late seventeenth century to the early twentieth. Topics covered include literature, philosophy, history, science, the social sciences, music, art, drama, archaeology and architecture. It is particularly strong on 19th century literary periodicals.

**How to access it:** via the Databases section of the Library web site. You will be asked for your GUID – this means that it can be used off campus.

**How to search:** choose Advanced search on the home page. You can then search by author (e.g. Conan Doyle), by title (e.g. “Lady Audley’s secret”), by full text etc.. If you are looking for reviews specifically you should choose Review from the Document Type list. If you are looking for a review from a specific periodical you can include that within your search by choosing to search within Publication Type. You can also search for specific texts rather than reviews, e.g. those that were serialised within publication such as “The Woman in White”.

**How to view:** you are then presented with a list of results. Click on Full text or Full Text PDF to view the review itself. Your search terms are highlighted in yellow.

# Newspaper databases

You can also access newspapers from the period to find review material. Databases that cover this period are *19th Century British Library Newspapers*, the *Guardian 1821-2003*, the *Illustrated London News Historical Archive (1842-2003)*, the *Observer 1791 – 2003*, the *Scotsman 1870-1950* and the *Times 1785-2008*. These can all be accessed via Databases on the Library home page.

# Other useful Library databases

Wellesley Index to Victorian Periodicals, 1824-1900: An index to 45 of the most important monthly and quarterly periodical titles of the 19th century beginning with the Westminster Review in 1824 and then including titles and issues to the end of the century. The content within the 45 periodicals can be searched by contributor (including any pseudonyms used) article title, periodical title, periodical subject, and date.

Victorian Popular Culture: Access to a range of primary source materials covering popular entertainment in America, Britain and Europe, in the period from 1779 to 1930.

These can both be accessed via the **Databases** link on the Library home page.

# Get more help

For more held with finding current book reviews contact your [College Librarian](https://www.gla.ac.uk/myglasgow/library/help/collegelibrarians/).