



# Finding Film Reviews



## How Do I Find Information on Films?

Finding reputable film reviews or academic articles on films can be very difficult. Firstly not all films have scholarly articles written about them. Secondly, the tools to find articles and reviews can be quite specialized. In fact, several of them are only available in print.

## Print Resources

Film Literature Index, 1973-2004

Ref. PN 1993.3.F43

A subject and author index on international films and television. FLI selectively indexes both well-known and alternative film journals, including citations to articles, film reviews and book reviews. FLI is a good choice to find citations to scholarly articles. Additionally, content from 1976-2001 is available online at <http://webapp1.dlib.indiana.edu/fli/index.jsp>

Film Review Annual, 1981 –

Ref. PN 1995. F463

Highly recommended. Each volume in this series contains the **full-text** of reviews of films released the previous year. Reviews come from key film review periodicals such as *Sight and Sound*, *Cineaste*, and *Film Quarterly*, as well as news periodicals and newspapers known for their film reviews (*Village Voice*, *Los Angeles Times*.) Film Review Annual is a good choice for finding both scholarly and reputable reviews and articles.

Film Review Index

Ref PN 1995 .F47

Volume 1: 1882-1949 Volume 2: 1950-1985

One of the best sources for locating reviews of early films. Indexes included are for director, year the film was produced, and country of origin. Although many foreign language films are indexed, only English language reviews are included.

Guide to Critical Reviews: Part IV

Ref PN 1995 .S3

The screenplay comprehensive in three volumes covers the years 1927-1980.

Index to Critical Film Reviews in British and American Film Periodicals Ref PN 1995 .B64

Coverage is for periodical published from 1939 to 1971. Includes a section on critical reviews of books about films.

Retrospective Index to Film Periodicals, 1930-1971

Ref PN 1995 .B25

Selected Film Criticism: Foreign Films 1930-1950

Ref PN 1995 .S426 1984

All reviews are in English.

## Databases

### [Lexis-Nexis](#)

Library's Web Page

Under news category check "Book, movie, music, play, and video reviews"

### [MLA](#)

Library's Web Page

While MLA does not have an easy way to limit to reviews, it occasionally contains citations to scholarly articles on classic and contemporary films.

### [ProQuest Direct](#)

Library's Web Page

Remember to search by Document Type-Film Review. Coverage varies, but indexing generally begins in 1987.

### [WilsonWeb](#)

Library's Web Page

Use Omni File Full Text. Search by name of film (using either All-Smart Search or Key Word Search) and Document Type: Film Review. Coverage starts in 1984.

## New York Times

The New York Times has long had highly regarded book and film reviews. Depending upon the age of the movie (or the review of the movie), you may need to search in one of three New York Times repositories.

### [New York Times Film Reviews, 1980-present](#)

<http://www.nytimes.com>

Archive of reviews from 1980 to present, plus selected earlier films. Free registration required

### [New York Times Film Reviews](#)

Ref PN 1995 .N4

Includes the full-text of reviews published from 1913 to 1982.

### [New York Times Historical, 1851-2003](#)

Library's Web Page

## Websites

### [The Internet Movie Database \(IMDb\)](#)

<http://www.imdb.com>

Great source for plot summaries, credits, and biographical information. To locate reviews, search by film title, then use the link "external reviews."

### [Movie Review Query Engine](#)

<http://www.mrqe.com>

Tremendous source of reviews, but use your critical thinking skills. This source includes reviews from many credible sources, but also includes the, perhaps, less credible.