Finding Plays in the Library Catalog

Use this guide to search by author or title for plays in the TU Cook Library catalog

Searching by Playwright Name

Step 1. Go to the library web page at: http://libraries.towson.edu

Step 2. Open the TU Library catalog

Step 3. Click on Basic Search

Step 4. Choose Author Beginning with type of search and type in playwright’s name

Step 5. From result list of authors, select correct name for your playwright

Step 6. From list of plays, select one to search for by clicking on the title of the item to get the call number and see whether that item is on the shelves and available for checkout.

Remember that most plays will be located on the fourth floor stacks of the library in the section beginning with the letter “P”. Follow aisle guides to locate the exact area for your call number.
Using Advanced Search to Find a Specific Play

Step 1. Open the TU Library catalog

Step 2. Click on Advanced Search

Step 3. In Advanced Search, change top search boxes to author and title search types and input playwright’s name and play title. Also change format to “book”

Step 4. If the library owns the play, the catalog record will display. Click on the “Availability” link to make sure the title is on the shelf. If it is, jot down call number and look for title in 4th floor stacks area.

What to do if you have trouble finding your play ...

- If Cook Library’s copy of the play you want is checked out, use the Availability button to request a copy be sent from another university library for you to borrow and return through Cook Library.
- Try the USMAI Catalog or Cook OneSearch to see holdings at other state university libraries and request available items be transferred to Cook Library for checkout.
- Try one of the online drama collections on the Playscripts tab of the Subject Guide to Theatre Arts on the Cook Library web page.
- Search in the E-book Central database to see if there is an electronic version of your play – see the E-books about Theatre tab of the Subject Guide to Theatre Arts.