



Film and Television: A Guide to the Reference Literature (Reference Sources in the Humanities)

By Mark Emmons

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The popularity and pervasiveness of film and television in 21st-century life is inescapable. Whether viewed as entertainment, educational, or cultural forms, the effect of these media on our lifestyles and attitudes is unmistakable. No wonder an increasing number of academics, students, and laypeople are drawn to study their particular appeal. Mark Emmons's magnum opus is a true labor of love. International in scope, it offers 1,244 substantially annotated entries, organized by topic. Its focus is movies and television shows: how they are produced; the people who make and appear in them; their content, their distribution and exhibition; and their reception by audiences, reviewers, critics, and scholars. Beginning with general guides, dictionaries and encyclopedias, the book then turns to filmographies, filmmakers, and filmmaking respectively. Filmographies lists films and television shows in the categories of national cinema and genre, made by studios or filmmakers, or featuring various groups of people. Filmmakers includes biographies and credits for filmmakers and actors. Filmmaking includes reference sources on making film and television shows. An indispensable guide for librarians, faculty, students, neophyte filmmakers, and fans everywhere.

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Editorial Review

From [Booklist](#)

Movies and television are fascinating subjects, but it is difficult to find information about them in one place. That need is met by this guide, which is an annotated and comprehensive list of print and electronic sources. As stated in the introduction, the guide is intended as a starting point for researchers and complements a similar work in the Reference Sources in the Humanities series on journalism and mass communication. It covers film and television from the earliest days to 2004 for print and 2005 for Web sites. Author Emmons was inspired by Kim Fisher's *On the Screen: A Film, Television, and Video Research Guide* (Libraries Unlimited, 1986).

The guide is arranged in 14 chapters covering types of resources, such as "Indexes and Bibliographies," or topics, such as "Fans and Audience." Each chapter has a number of subdivisions. For example, chapter 6, "Genres," has sections on categories ranging from game shows to war films. The entries are numbered consecutively from 1 to 1,244, and each includes a citation to the print source or Web site, followed by a paragraph-long annotation. The annotations are both descriptive and critical. Six appendixes cover Library of Congress and Dewey decimal subject headings and classifications. Two indexes, one of authors and titles and one of subjects, complete the work.

The only section that has some definite omissions is "Worst," in chapter 4 ("General Film and Television Filmographies"), which fails to include Michael Medved's books, *The Golden Turkey Awards* (1980) or *The Hollywood Hall of Shame* (1984). Also missing is Roger Ebert's *I Hated, Hated, Hated This Movie* (2000). Even so, the volume is valuable to film and television enthusiasts and an excellent collection development guide. It is recommended for academic and public library collections with film and television holdings.

Abbie Vestal Landry

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Review

"Emmons's passion for the large and small screen is evident in this annotated bibliography of reference sources, for which he personally examined and described over 1,200 resources. Recognizing that movies and television are now legitimate areas of growing scholarly analysis, his work identifies print titles (exhaustively) and free and subscription Web sites (selectively). Beyond the standard bibliographies, encyclopedias, and even filmographies, works are organized by topic....Emmons reluctantly limits himself to English-language publications (but spends 46 pages on worldwide cinema) and excludes journalism, individuals and individual works, memorabilia, and trivia. Brief explanatory topic introductions precede carefully done, insightful source annotations that speak to quality, currency, and uniqueness. Appendixes provide bonuses: recommended LC subject headings; LC Moving Image Genre/Form List; a breakdown of LC classification PN1900 by subject, then by classification number, followed by similar information for Dewey. An excellent guide for researchers. Highly recommended. Lower-level undergraduates and above." -

Choice

"[O]ffers a useful introduction to the maze of literature already produced in this field for both the serious student and the researcher." - **Reference Reviews**

"*Film and Television: A Guide to the Reference Literature* is an essential volume for any college or university library supporting programs in film and television studies. Intended as a starting point for

research, it fills a decade-long gap in the reference literature by providing an updated and comprehensive bibliography for film and television studies' resources. Listings include print and electronic resource titles and Internet Web sites--a welcome addition....[t]his is a welcome and timely addition to the reference literature. Highly recommended." - **College & Research Libraries ^BSelected Reference Works, 2006^R**

"Movies and television are fascinating subjects, but it is difficult to find information about them in one place. That need is met by this guide which is an annotated and comprehensive list of print and electronic sources....[t]he volume is valuable to film and television enthusiasts and an excellent collection development guide. It is recommended for academic and public library collections with film and television holdings." -

Booklist

"Emmons provides 1,244 descriptions of titles divided into chapters on indexes and bibliographies, dictionaries and encyclopedias, filmographies, national cinema, genres, formats, studios, portrayals, filmmakers, screenplays, production, the industry, and fans. Given the vast number of published items in this area, Emmons's comments will help in making wise acquisitions choices." - **C&RL News**

About the Author

Mark Emmons is Librarian and Associate Professor at the University of New Mexico. His lifelong passion for film led him to work briefly in the film and television industry immediately after graduating from UCLA in 1983. Realizing that he liked watching films more than making them, he explored a career in teaching before finding his niche as a librarian in 1990. As a librarian, he has selected books and films for the library collection, taught students how to conduct research, and answered reference questions about film and television. He has also written chapters on web-based film resources and on how to teach film research to undergraduates.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Linda Young:

A lot of people always spent their particular free time to vacation or go to the outside with them household or their friend. Do you know? Many a lot of people spent many people free time just watching TV, or playing video games all day long. If you want to try to find a new activity here is look different you can read a new book. It is really fun for you personally. If you enjoy the book that you read you can spent all day every day to reading a publication. The book Film and Television: A Guide to the Reference Literature (Reference Sources in the Humanities) it is quite good to read. There are a lot of people who recommended this book. These people were enjoying reading this book. In case you did not have enough space to create this book you can buy typically the e-book. You can m0ore easily to read this book out of your smart phone. The price is not too costly but this book offers high quality.

Michael Garcia:

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The book untitled Film and Television: A Guide to the Reference Literature (Reference Sources in the Humanities) contain a lot of information on the idea. The writer explains her idea with easy approach. The language is very clear to see all the people, so do not necessarily worry, you can easy to read this. The book was authored by famous author. The author will bring you in the new era of literary works. You can easily read this book because you can read more your smart phone, or product, so you can read the book with anywhere and anytime. If you want to buy the e-book, you can available their official web-site and also order it. Have a nice examine.

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