Building Blocks of Literary Research

These categories represent the different types of information you can use as sources in your research.

OVERVIEWS/INTRODUCTIONS
- Encyclopedias
- Dictionaries
- Bibliographies

AUTHOR
- Biographies
- Interviews
- Influence(s)

LITERARY WORK
- Reviews
- Criticism
- Genre
- Theme
- Characters
- Reception
- Literary Theory

GEOGRAPHIC AREA
- Nationality
- History of Geographic Area
- Significance of a Geographic Area (in the literary work and to the author)

TIME PERIOD
- Chronologies
- Literary Movements
- Author’s Contemporaries

PRIMARY SOURCES
- Literary Work(s)
- Autobiography
- Oral Histories
- Visual Material

Heather Martin, MLIS, MA / Reference Librarian for Arts and Humanities
Mervyn H. Sterne Library <hmartin@uab.edu>