Guide to the Digital Loeb Classical Library

About the Digital Loeb Classical Library

The Digital Loeb Classical Library reproduces in digital format the familiar green (Greek) and red (Latin) printed volumes of the works of ancient authors, with a parallel English translation on the facing page. It contains more than 520 volumes of the primary sources for studying the ancient world. It includes all types of ancient Greek and Latin literature, including epic and lyric poetry, tragedy and comedy, history, travel, philosophy, oratory, and the works of medical writers, mathematicians and Church Fathers.

This Guide should help you to get started with using the Loeb Library. However it is worth exploring the onscreen “Using the Library” detailed Help section, which offers instructions and FAQs.

If you need one-to-one help with using the resource, contact Helen Ireland, Academic Support Librarian for Classics, h.ireland@warwick.ac.uk or email library@warwick.ac.uk

Accessing the Digital Loeb Classical Library

Search for Loeb Classical Library on Library Search, click on the “Database” link, log in with your Warwick username and password and click “Sign in”.

Browsing

You can browse the library by author’s name, Greek / Latin work or Loeb volume (LCL).

From the Home Page, click on Browse and “Authors”. Click on a letter of the alphabet, select an author and then the work you require, to read the item one page at a time.
Once you’ve found the item you want, click on the LCL number in the top right hand corner of the screen. This takes you to the Table of Contents and the Bibliographic Reference, with the full publication details. You can navigate through the Table of Contents to the section you want, or go to a specific page.

**Searching**

To search for words or phrases, type your term into the search box in the top right hand corner of the screen. You can use the dropdown Greek keyboard to search for Greek words.

To find an exact phrase, use quotation marks, e.g. “Ides of March”, “debellare superbos”. To find part of a word, enter the part you want to find and replace the rest with an asterisk or question marks. A question mark replaces a single character. A single asterisk replaces any number of characters greater than zero. Choose your terms carefully and be prepared for irrelevant results, because a term such as domin* will produce not only dominus, domina and their various case endings in Latin but also dominion, dominated, domination, etc.

Searching for common words such as Beauty will produce a large number of results but the “Narrow Your Choices” option on the left hand side of the screen lets you narrow your search to specific authors, subjects or genres, using the upward and downward arrows to scroll through the list.

You can refine your search even further by using the “Search within results” option. For example, you may want to find all instances of the word lyre where Apollo also appears, or a word appearing in the works of a specific author.
The Advanced Search option allows you to build up a very sophisticated search by author, editor/translator, work title, word appearing in the main text, and date.

**My Loebs**

Sign In (at the top of the Home Screen) to create a personal My Loebs account, which enables you to create and access saved searches, bookmarks, and annotations. The Tools menu at the bottom of the screen provides access to print, bookmark, email and annotation options. To annotate a section of text, move the cursor to highlight the passage and click on the pencil icon to add your personal annotations. You can create Groups within your My Loebs account to enable sharing and collaborative work.