American and English Literature Collection (LCO) New Platform Launch FAQ

We're happy to announce that on December 30 the American and English Literature Collection will launch on our new platform. The new platform offers patrons a more modern and intuitive user experience, with navigation and features that will be familiar from their interactions with consumer-facing technology. The user interface works with all kinds of devices. In addition to offering simpler navigation, browsing, and searching, users who create an account can save favorites, add notes and bookmarks, make lists, and sync preferences across devices.

Downtime Notice: The American and English Literature Collection will be unavailable on December 30, 2020 between 5am and 7am while we switch the platforms.

Is the entire American and English Literature Collection available on the new platform?

In initial beta-testing, 1,057 items were not able to be migrated to the new platform, but that has been corrected. The whole collection is now included.

Why a new platform?

In 2017, OhioLINK issued an RFP to replace the legacy OhioLINK Electronic Book Center with a visually attractive, easy to navigate, mobile device compatible, online platform for scholarly e-books. The contract was awarded to BiblioLabs, LLC. Work began on the new platform in January 2018 with the format migration and loading of the Chadwyck-Healey content purchased by Libraries Connect Ohio.

Will the URL change?

OPLIN's link to the legacy platform https://ohioweblibrary.org/db/literature will be redirected from its current target on OhioLINK's servers to BiblioBoard. The beta test link https://ohioweblibrary.org/db/literature-beta will also be directed to the new platform.

Is the new platform mobile-friendly?

Yes, the new platform works well on mobile devices.

Who do we contact for support?

You can continue to send support issues to support@oplin.ohio.gov. OPLIN staff will forward content issues to OhioLINK and technical issues to BiblioLabs.

What formats are the e-books in?

The American and English Literature Collection (Chadwyck-Healey) e-books use the e-pub format. E-pub users on Android and PCs may need to download an app in order to download and read e-pubs.

Can users do full text searching in the new platform?

Full text searching will be limited to searches within the e-pub that is being viewed. Full text searching across all e-books will be implemented in a later release anticipated in 2021.

What are "curations, "modules," and "categories"?

The new platform uses the terms curations, modules, and categories to refer to different ways of grouping e-books. To help you understand what these are, we've included explanations below.

Curations are groups of curated content, often based on a particular subject or author. At this time, the curations mirror the modules.

Modules are, in most cases, all of the e-books from a publisher (what we usually refer to as a collection). The American and English History Collection (Chadwyck-Healey) has been broken up into several modules such as "English Poetry 600-1900 and "Shakespeare," in order to provide a better browsing experience.

Categories are groups of e-books related to a particular topic. E-books are placed into categories automatically based on publisher-provided metadata. If a publisher has not provided appropriate metadata and a category cannot be determined for a particular e-book, that e-book will not be included in a category. However, it will be discoverable using search or by browsing a module.

How will users authenticate?

We are using IP authentication and EZProxy, as with the current Literature Collection and most other databases. Users recognized as coming from within Ohio will automatically be proxied in. There are no user-apparent changes to authentication. Please continue your usual practice for IP updates by notifying us at support@oplin.ohio.gov.

Can I get usage statistics from the new platform?

OPLIN is working with OhioLINK to get usage stats from the new platform integrated into https://stats.oplin.org.

Do users have to set up a BiblioBoard account?

Users are not required to set up a BiblioBoard account to use the platform and read the e-books. However, having a user account does offer the ability to save favorites, create bookmarks, add notes, and sync preferences across devices. An email address is not required to create an account.

Will the collection be integrated into my library's current BiblioBoard services?

A handful of Ohio libraries already offer BiblioBoard content to their patrons, but the American and English Literature Collection is at a separate BiblioBoard URL and will not be directly tied to a library's other BiblioBoard collections. You will link to it separately on your website.