What is Early English Books Online?
With over 125,000 titles comprising 22.5 million facsimile page images, Early English Books Online (EEBO) is the most comprehensive and accurate record available of publications from 1473-1700.

For example, you can see exactly what the first printed edition of the Canterbury Tales looked like, compare Shakespeare’s quartos page by page or study musical exercises by Henry Purcell.

The EEBO homepage provides access to the Basic and Advanced Search screens, a browsable list of all authors in EEBO and their works, improved access to information about EEBO and a What’s New page.

The Basic Search screen is designed to facilitate quick research. Try performing a simple search using a single search term in one field (e.g. enter Subject Keyword(s): emblems and click Search) or a more focused search by combining search terms in different fields (e.g. enter Subject Keyword(s): emblems and Author Keyword(s): Quarles and click Search).

How can I access EEBO?
Your library has access to EEBO. Please ask a librarian or department member for details on how to access the service.

Using EEBO
EEBO’s Basic Search screen allows you to search for works by keyword or according to author, title, subject, bibliographic number and date of publication or any combination of these fields.

Use the Select from a list >> links alongside each field to browse and select exact terms for searching.

Use truncation to help find variant spellings. For example creat* will retrieve creator, creation and creative.

Proximity searching is now available using the operators NEAR and FBY (Followed BY). For example, ‘Cromwell near.10 Ireland’ will find all instances of Cromwell being within 10 words of Ireland.

Multiple search terms entered in a single field will be interpreted by EEBO as a phrase unless separated by a Boolean operator (and, or or not). Use Boolean operators between multiple terms in a single field (e.g. type Title Keyword(s): fire and London rather than Title Keyword(s): fire London) unless you know that the words you are searching for appear consecutively in the citations you are looking for (e.g. Title Keyword(s): Don Quixote).
The Advanced Search allows you to create powerful searches using an array of additional fields including Language and Source Library. You can also search for works containing particular types of illustrations.

In response to requests by Librarians and users, there is now a simple alphabetical browse of all authors and their works, available by clicking Browse on the home page or in the top navigation bar, which gives easy access to all major functions from every page and clear labelling of where you are in the site.

The Full Citation display (accessible by clicking the index card icon on the Search Results screen) provides full bibliographic information for the work in question. From here you have the ability to view the document images or illustrations; alternatively, you can select a print format. Click the Durable URL button to obtain a link to this work that you can bookmark or copy and paste to an email or electronic document such as a web page or course syllabus.

The Document Images display allows you to page through the volume, jump between illustrations using the << Previous illustration | Next illustration >> links or manipulate images for close analysis and/or printing. You can also create a durable link.

From the Search History page you are able to view a summary of your searches for the current session.

How can EEBO support my study?

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