

About the University Library

The University Library was established in 1867 with a collection of 644 books purchased with \$1,000 appropriated by the State of Illinois. Today, the University Library is one of the largest public universities in the world. It offers rich collections in tangible and digital formats across the broad spectrum of disciplines represented at Illinois. These collections are not only used by members of the campus community—they are accessible to anyone on-site.

Since its establishment, the Library has played a critical role in the teaching, research, and service mission of the University. Not only is it renowned worldwide for the depth and breadth of its collections, but for the expertise of its librarians and staff, and its innovative and cutting-edge services.

Almost 4 million volumes of the Library's collection are located in the Main Bookstacks (accessible from the second floor of the Main Library). The Main Library building houses several departmental libraries. Among others, these include Business and Economics, Education and Social Science, History, Philosophy, and Newspaper, and Classics. Other departmental libraries are located on campus in or near the academic departments they serve, such as Architecture and Art, Chemistry, and Music and Performing Arts. There are also virtual service programs, including the Library and Information Science Virtual Library and the Labor and Employment Relations Digital Library. The Undergraduate Library provides services and collections especially geared toward the research and recreational needs of first- and second-year students. Loanable technology is located in the Undergraduate Library, including cameras, laptops, calculators, USB drives, MP3 players, and even gaming consoles and accessories.

In response to student request, the Undergraduate Library and the Grainger Engineering Library Information Center are open 24 hours five days a week.



Hours

www.library.illinois.edu/services/hours.php

Library Locations

www.library.illinois.edu/services/find.php

Library Map

www.library.illinois.edu/services/findp/

Uncover and Discover

www.library.illinois.edu

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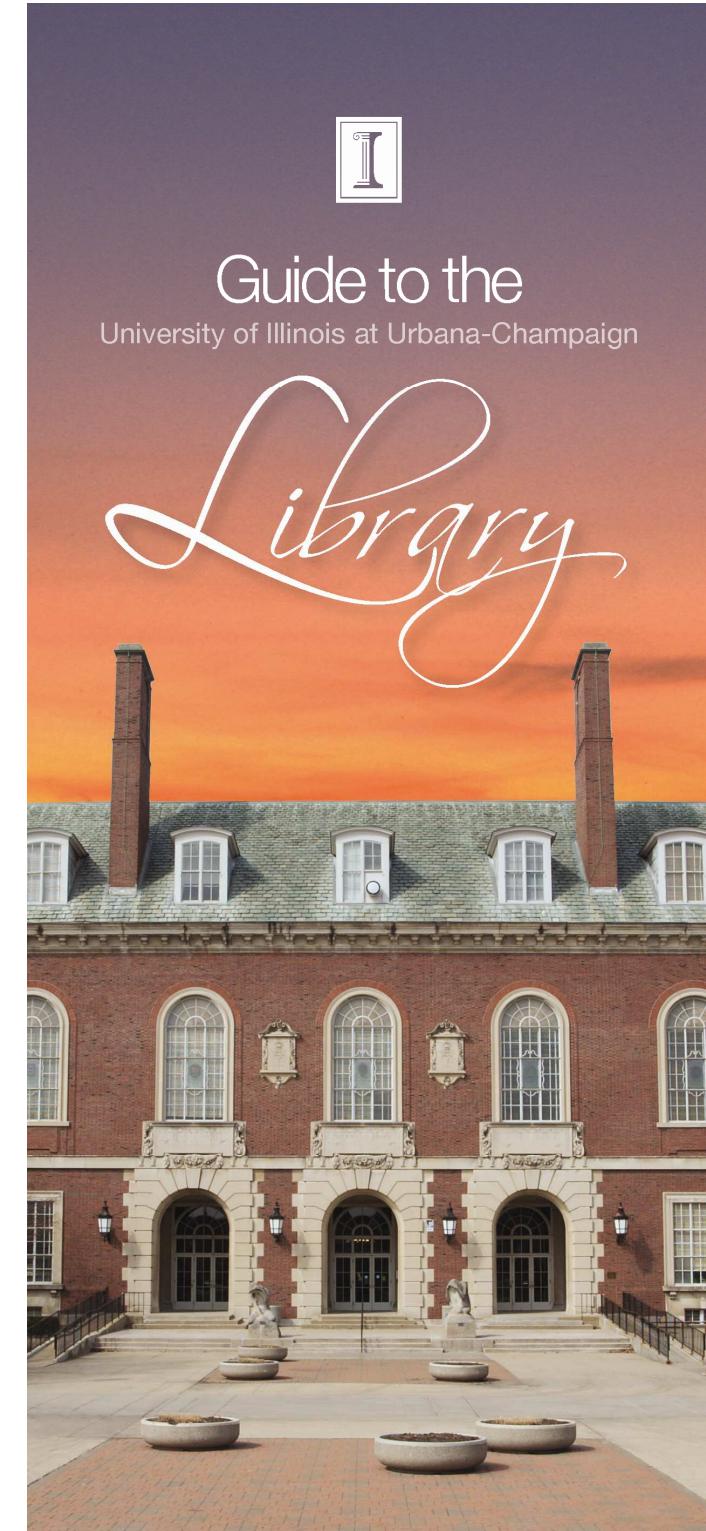
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Welcome

to the University Library
at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign



Collections

The University Library's collections comprise millions of volumes housed in the Main Library and in several departmental libraries and special collections.

Holdings are strong in all academic disciplines, with notable collections in music, linguistics, chemistry, and mathematics. Special collections include materials by and about John Milton, William Shakespeare, Marcel Proust, Carl Sandburg, Abraham Lincoln, and H. G. Wells.

Digital collections are growing rapidly. Many significant special collections have been locally digitized, including materials in the Kolb-Proust Archive for Research and the James B. Reston Papers. In addition, the Library and the University Archives collect and provide access to digital content produced on the Illinois campus. Digitized materials about Illinois and by Illinois scholars are available through Illinois Harvest.

<http://illinoisharvest.grainger.uiuc.edu>

In addition to locally digitized materials, the University Library provides access to hundreds of thousands of e-books, journals, magazines, and newspapers.

Online Catalog

I-Share is a joint online catalog shared by 75 academic libraries throughout Illinois—including U of I. Items not available at U of I can be requested through I-Share and delivered to a campus library for pickup. Faculty, staff, and graduate students may also request delivery to campus offices. Library materials can be renewed online or by telephone (217-333-8400).

www.library.illinois.edu/catalog/

Easy Search enables patrons to simultaneously search multiple online resources—catalogs, journal databases and indexes, and websites.

[http://search.grainger.uiuc.edu/searchaid2/
searchassist.asp](http://search.grainger.uiuc.edu/searchaid2/searchassist.asp)

Interlibrary Loan

Interlibrary loan, from other institutions around the globe, is available for items that cannot be found at U of I or through I-Share. Interlibrary loan requests can be placed 24 hours a day through ILLiad.

www.library.illinois.edu/illrc/

Reserves

Course reserve materials are available in both print and digital format. Most reserve materials, such as journal articles, exams, lecture notes, and book chapters, are accessible through the Library's online catalog.

www.library.illinois.edu/ipm/reserves.html

Reference Service

These services encompass a broad spectrum of information needs, such as finding quick answers to questions, using the online catalog and other electronic resources, and locating library materials and information on specialized topics. The Main Library's Information Desk (217-333-2290) serves as a central information and reference point for the Library system. All departmental libraries also provide reference service and individual research consultations.

Ask a Librarian

Need a quick answer while searching for a book or other research material? Instantly connect to a librarian through Instant Messaging (IM) software.

www.library.illinois.edu/askus/

Or, text a librarian. Send an SMS text to 217-686-4361. Staff is available to answer questions during the same hours as other Ask a Librarian services.



Library Instruction

The University Library is committed to helping Illinois faculty, staff, and students make full and self-sufficient use of information resources. Librarians' Office Hours are offered during the course of the semester to allow for more in-depth assistance. Subject-specific instruction is offered through various departmental libraries. The Savvy Researcher workshop series offers unique and supplemental learning opportunities not tied to a particular major or discipline. Information about all of these programs and much more is available through the Library's LEARN website.

www.library.illinois.edu/learn/

Guided tours are offered at the beginning of the semester and a virtual tour is always available online.