THE STACKS
UMSL Libraries' Student Newsletter

University Libraries · University of Missouri - St. Louis

Getting Started with Research

You may want to begin your research by searching for books in the Library Catalog. The UMSL Library Catalog will help you locate books in any of the UMSL Libraries. The MERLIN Catalog allows you to search for books at any of the four University of Missouri campuses. In addition, by using MOBIUS, you have access to books at 60+ Missouri academic libraries. You can request books from any of the MERLIN or MOBIUS libraries and have them delivered to UMSL in just a few days.

The next step in finding resources is to search for relevant journal articles in the Libraries’ databases. A list of databases arranged by Subject is accessible on the Libraries’ homepage. In many cases, the full-text of an article will be available in a database. If you do not see a full-text link, however, you can click on the Article Linker button.

Article Linker will search for the full-text of the article in other databases and indicate if the print version is in the Libraries.

If you need a book that cannot be found in MERLIN or MOBIUS or a journal article not found in full-text or in print at the UMSL Libraries, you can often request these items through Interlibrary Loan. Requests can be made online at the Interlibrary Loan webpage.

Are You Stuck at the Start?

It’s the middle of the night, and you are putting the finishing touches on an assignment. You need a peer-reviewed article to round out your paper. What is that? Not to fret, as the library provides a short tutorial on “Characteristics of Peer-Reviewed Articles.” A variety of instruction tutorials ranging from finding full-text articles at UMSL to interpreting citations are offered on the Libraries’ homepage. These short video tutorials can be found under Research Help.

Laptops Available for Use in the Thomas Jefferson Library

Offering a wide area of wireless coverage in the Libraries, students studying or writing papers in the Thomas Jefferson Library are finding it more convenient to do their work on a laptop - writing papers, taking notes, searching the library's e-resources for information, or checking email.

Laptops may be checked out at the Thomas Jefferson Library Circulation Desk (main floor, 3rd level) for two hours with an UMSL student ID. An information sheet comes with each laptop checkout, providing the benefit of a smoother operation. Checkout is on a first-come, first-served basis, and students are asked to complete a Library Laptop Use Agreement.

Although the laptops cannot print directly to the printers in the computer lab, students can save their work to the K drive on the Samba network, as well as to a USB flash drive, for later printing. For more information, ask at the TJL Circulation/Reserve Desk.

UMSL’s Three Libraries

Many students may not be aware that there are three Libraries located on the UMSL Campus. The Thomas Jefferson Library, located on North Campus, houses the Social Sciences, most of the Sciences, and the Humanities collections. On South Campus, the Ward E. Barnes Library holds the Education, Nursing, and Optometry Collections. Finally, the Mercantile Library, located on Levels 1 and 2 of the Thomas Jefferson Library, has special collections dealing with Westward Expansion, American railroad and river transportation, and local St. Louis history. Consult the Libraries’ homepage for more information or visit the Reference Desk.

Wireless Access in Your Library

All three Libraries on campus offer wireless access for UMSL students, faculty and staff. If you need help logging in to the network, see the attendant in the Computer Lab in the Thomas Jefferson Library or the Ward E. Barnes Library. For additional information, consult the Information Technology Services website. View a map of wireless coverage in each building from the Libraries’ homepage.

Library Hours
UMSL Library Catalog
Contact

Did You Know?

♦ Looking for one-on-one research assistance? Research consultations can be done in-person, via email or chat. If you would like to request a Research Consultation please visit the Libraries’ homepage.

♦ You can follow the UMSL Libraries on Twitter – http://twitter.com/UMSLLibraries.

♦ The Libraries are open early and late — see the Library Hours on the homepage.

♦ Visit the Research Help page to find a list of available Subject Guides that can help you do research in a particular subject area. Subject Guides are also available in print at the Reference Desk.

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