FACULTY’S USE OF THE LIBRARY

IMPROVE STUDENTS’ GRADES
ELIMINATE ‘LIBRARY ANXIETY’
MAKE BETTER USE OF LIBRARY SERVICES

Edward G. Schumacher Memorial Library
www.northwesterncollege.edu/library
The Edward G. Schumacher Memorial Library is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to serving as a resource center for professionals, students, and the community as a whole.
The Edward G. Schumacher Memorial Library was established in 1991. The Library is located in the Academic Center at the Chicago campus of Northwestern College. A branch library is located at Northwestern College’s Bridgeview campus.

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Librarians’ qualifications:

Unlike many career colleges, Northwestern College employs professional librarians with Master’s degrees and additional professional degrees.

What we do:

We contribute to student success by helping students navigate through and use the resources of the Library.

We emphasize information literacy skills that will be valuable to students in their chosen careers.
Responsibilities of Library Staff

Answer reference questions

Teach students how to find books and articles both one-on-one and in classroom settings

Explain the process of citing sources

Choose and acquire print and online resources

Catalog all resources

Promote and display all resources
The Library’s Collections: Print and Online

Circulating
Reference
Legal Reference
Periodicals
Annual Reports
Fiction/Bestsellers
Faculty Topics
Reserves
Back issues of periodicals
Search the Library’s catalog from our website to find items in all campus libraries.

www.northwesterncollege.edu/library

Search the ‘Oasis Online Catalog’

Search by title, author, or subject to find materials in all campus libraries.

Intercampus loans are available. Ask staff for help.
The Edward G. Schumacher Memorial Library participates in library resource sharing with neighboring libraries.

NC students may borrow books from other college and university libraries by presenting their NC student I.D. cards.

A list of the participating libraries along with their contact information is available in the Library.
Besides books...

Campus Libraries offer:
- Computers
- Printers
- Copiers
- Study rooms

Students may enjoy:
- Events, contests, programs, displays
Research Guides & Handouts
Available in the Library

Examples of available guides:

- Company Information and Economic Data Resources
- Criminal Justice: Online reports, statistics, laws
- Nursing Resources
- Subject Guide to Online Databases
- Student Guide to Library Resources
- 10 Questions Frequently Asked About Using the Library
- Dewey Decimal Classification System
- “What Is My Learning Style?”
- General Tips For the Student Researcher
Online Databases: Full-text, 24/7

The Library subscribes to many online databases that cover business, medical, legal, and general topics.

Most documents are available in full-text and may be printed, e-mailed, or saved electronically.

Databases from ProQuest, EBSCOhost, and Congressional Quarterly Researcher are available remotely using passwords.

See ‘Subject Guide to Online Databases’ for a list of remote passwords.
Interlibrary Loans

If the Edward G. Schumacher Memorial Library does not own a particular book title, interlibrary loans from other college libraries are available to Northwestern College students.

Anyone may ask for help to search OCLC’s FirstSearch online catalog and order items from other libraries.

Arrival times for loaned materials vary and may take longer than one week.
Bibliographic/Library Instruction

One of the Librarians’ roles is to instruct students in the effective use of Library resources. BI improves students’ information-seeking behavior and instills confidence in their ability to conduct research.

We conduct research and Library orientation sessions for Freshman Seminar and Professional Development classes.

We are able to tailor a research class for your class.
Why BI benefits our students

- Students who are ill-prepared to do research avoid the Library and postpone research.

- We know that when students use the Library, they develop skills that will serve them in their future educational experiences.

- The university, medical, or law libraries awaiting our students will not be confusing or intimidating to students who have found and used print and online information while conducting research in the Edward G. Schumacher Memorial Library.
Reasons why faculty may choose to not include BI or the principles of information literacy in their classes:

- Students will figure it out on their own (or should do so)
- These skills are taught in another class
- “It’s not my responsibility”
- Students will ask for help if they need it
- There’s not enough time
Let’s eliminate “Library Anxiety”

“Library Anxiety” is a result of:

- Not knowing where resources are
- Not knowing how to access resources
- Not knowing how to begin the research process
Information Literacy & Our Students

During BI, we teach the essentials:

- Recognize when information is needed
- Understand the type of information needed
- Locate the information
- Evaluate the information
- Use the information in a responsible way
Included in Bibliographic Instruction:
Demonstrating the Library’s Oasis Online Catalog

- Searching by title, author, keywords
- Dewey Decimal Classification: how books are arranged by subject
- Finding similar items on a subject
- Reference vs. Circulating collections
Bibliographic Instruction:
Demonstrating the Library’s databases

- Which database to choose
- How to form and limit a search
- Using keywords vs. subject terms
- Scholarly vs. popular publications
- What does “peer-reviewed” mean?
Just a few thoughts about Google

- Does this look familiar?
  “1,560,873 hits” (in random order and with low recall and relevancy ratios)

- Many students think that the free-text searching used by search engines can substitute for the indexing of the Library’s databases.

- Library databases are ignored although they contain most academic literature.
The information-literate student learns to value the research process.

We hear:

- “I found some great articles.”
- “Using the databases saved me a lot of time.”
- “I couldn’t find anything good on Google, but I found what I needed on the databases.”
- “I wish that I had known about these databases, I could have used them before.”
- “That book helped me in writing my paper.”
MLA Citations: What students need to know

- The importance of citing works
- Where to find publishing information
- Author vs. editor
- Using citations to avoid plagiarism
- Attributing intellectual content to authors

The Library has copies of **MLA Works Cited Style Guide** and **APA Reference Style Guide** for students to use.
Faculty-Librarian Collaboration

- Schedule your classes for a Library visit or BI session
- Place extra copies of textbooks on reserve for in-Library use
- Create a program and hold it in the BV Library’s study room
- Recommend materials for purchase
- Let us know if you need a Library research assignment and we will create one.
We welcome your suggestions and your collection development recommendations.

Please contact your campus Librarian if you have any questions about Library services, titles, or scheduling your classes for visits to the Library.

Presentation slides created by Joyce Tracy, Librarian/Edward G. Schumacher Memorial Library
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