

## Library Update August 2025

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### Here is an overview of what I can help you with:

- Research needs or questions from students, staff, and faculty
- Library and research instruction: class visits and/or designing a customized research guide (LibGuide) for your course linkable in Canvas, citation management instruction (Zotero)
- Connecting your course goals to Hillman Library's makerspaces, Text & conText Lab and OpenLab
- Digital scholarship needs or questions: copyright issues, open access publishing, data management, our digital repository, citation metrics, altmetrics, journal metrics, partnerships for digital humanities projects
- Open Educational Resource for your course
- Collection needs (ordering books, journals, databases, films)
- One-on-one research consultations

For more information on the relationship between the English Department & the Library, please visit this guide: <http://pitt.libguides.com/englishdept> This is also linked from your Faculty Resources Page: <https://www.english.pitt.edu/faculty-resources>

### Research Support & Consultation

Guide your students directly to me, their subject specialist librarian, for library or research help in your classes. I can assist via consultation (via Zoom, email, or in-person.)

- If your students do visit the Hillman first floor service desk in-person, they will not be provided with introductory research guidance. If the student has questions, library staff will put them in contact with me (or the appropriate library expert or specialist) to schedule a consultation or with the general [Ask Us email/chat](#) as appropriate.

### Here are a few quick items of note:

- We will deliver library materials from the University Library System (ULS), EZBorrow, and Interlibrary Loan directly to faculty offices located within the prescribed boundaries of the Pittsburgh Campus. See further details at <https://library.pitt.edu/faculty-delivery>
- See other options for requesting and receiving library material at: <https://library.pitt.edu/getting-materials-our-collection>
- We have the option for physical course reserves in print in the library. Submit your requests via the online form at <https://www.library.pitt.edu/course-reserves>
- Hillman Library has a 24-hour/5 days per week schedule and the library hours for all locations can be found at <https://www.library.pitt.edu/hours>
- A current Pitt ID is your library card and allows access to all library materials, in-print and online, so please check the expiration date on your ID and make sure it is current for the year. Panther Central (<https://www.pc.pitt.edu>) is your contact for obtaining a new Pitt ID or updating a current one.

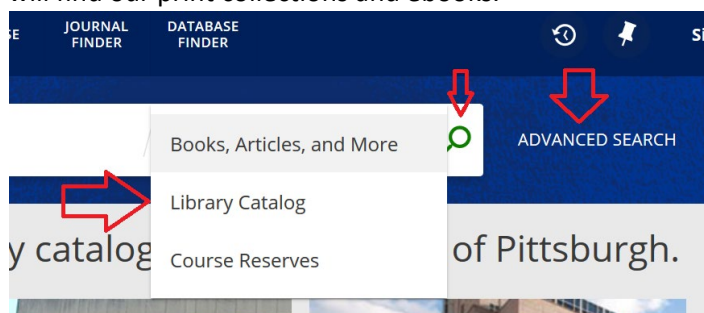
## PittCat

There is a unified discovery layer for our subscription content and library catalog, PittCat. For the best user experience, 'Sign In' in the upper right corner. <https://pitt.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/>

- Anyone new to searching our library system, PittCat, will find helpful a series of short videos <https://library.pitt.edu/how-do-i> to guide you through common processes such as searching for materials, requesting items, and borrowing from other libraries.

You can search just the library catalog for known item searching.

- Use the green magnifying glass and choose Library Catalog from the drop-down.
- You can also use the Advanced Search, and limit to Title and Material Type, Books.
- Both methods will find our print collections and ebooks.



There is also an A-to-Z list of databases. <https://pitt.libguides.com/az.php>

## Academic Integrity Modules

The Pitt Libraries' Academic Integrity Modules have been updated to include more interactive features, and address gaps in student understanding of the purpose of academic integrity in their academic lives. Students who complete the modules and receive an 80% or higher on the final quiz receive an Academic Integrity Badge they can share with you as proof of completion. Students can enroll at any point in the semester using this link: <https://canvas.pitt.edu/enroll/3LJA96>.

**Required Class Readings/Books/Textbooks:** I can check for availability and then potentially purchase unlimited ebook user access to titles that you recommend for your classes.

- Open Educational Resources include any type of educational material freely available AND that is specifically licensed for teachers and students to use, adapt, share, and reuse. Using OER makes course materials more affordable for students, and often more flexible for instructors. Please see <https://www.library.pitt.edu/open-educational-resources> to investigate using OER for your course text or learning materials.

## Course Reserves

- For course reserves, please submit your requests via the online form at <https://www.library.pitt.edu/course-reserves> We offer print course reserves available at the Hillman Library's Donald S. Wood Service Desk or electronic reserves in the form of eBooks when available; or small amounts of a scanned work as allowed by copyright.

- We recommend that any films from our collection needed for a course in physical format be requested through this form to ensure that they are available in Hillman Media Services for you and your students.
- For any electronic content (films, articles, eBooks, etc.) that you have used in your course in the past, please double-check PittCat to make sure they are still available and do not have a date of expiration beyond the needed timeframe.

### Hillman Library Spaces & Physical Equipment

- **Media Spaces:** The Media Services office has officially moved to the Ground Floor of Hillman Library. While the location has changed, most of our services remain the same. At our new main office (Room G41), you can continue to receive support for equipment lending and the Stark Media Collection.
  - **We are excited to announce the upcoming launch of our newly constructed Media Labs and Stark Viewing Rooms. However, not all spaces will be fully operational at the start of the Fall Semester. Some final construction work is still underway.**
  - New Media Labs Overview
    - Media Lab: Film – A black box studio for media creation, photography, and film production
    - Media Lab: Audio – A studio for producing, recording, and mixing high-quality audio
    - One Button Studio – A simplified recording space for high-quality video and audio, no technical experience required
    - Post-Production Editing Booths – Two suites equipped with computers and post-production software
    - All spaces will be bookable from our webpage (coming soon!)
- **Hillman Equipment Collection:** <https://pitt.libguides.com/equipment/hillmanequipmentcollection> All students, faculty, and staff with a current Pitt ID card are eligible to borrow media creation equipment from the Hillman Equipment Collection during our hours of operation.
- **Course Reserve Equipment:** <https://pitt.libguides.com/equipment> Course Reserve Equipment is exclusively available to students enrolled in designated courses with special borrowing privileges. To learn more about Course Reserve Equipment for your course, please contact me or email [uls-media@pitt.edu](mailto:uls-media@pitt.edu).
- **OpenLab@Pitt:** <https://library.pitt.edu/open-lab> is a partnership between the ULS and the University's Center for Teaching and Learning. Through workshops, class sessions, consultations and trainings, the OpenLab connects the Pitt community with technology for hand-on making and experiential learning. Drop in to experience virtual reality, learn to 3D print and 3D scan, use a vinyl cutter, or laser cut onto virtually any material. Individual and class visits to the lab build community, spark innovation, and facilitate collaboration around these experiences.
- **The Text & conText Lab:** <https://library.pitt.edu/text-context-lab> A Center for Creativity/University Library System partnership on the Third Floor of Hillman Library, provides an active environment for the creation, manipulation, and/or disassembly of text. The space is focused on all aspects of bookmaking, including typesetting and printing on a letterpress. Class visits to the lab can be designed around experiential learning experiences that align with course

goals. Text & conText is open to all Pitt students, faculty, and staff. Both individual and group work can be accommodated; this is a space for experiential activity rather than study!

**Media Services (Stark Media Collection):** (DVD, Blu-ray, VHS, 16mm film reels, and Laserdisc)

<https://library.pitt.edu/media-services>

- Contact the Media Services Team at: [uls-media@pitt.edu](mailto:uls-media@pitt.edu)
  - Learn best practices for accessing and using the ULS's Stark Media Services film collection for instruction and research by [watching this short video](#). (12 minutes). Included is information on how best to find and request films, how to request items be held on reserve for your courses, how to request new film purchases, and how to request films for streaming or conversion to streaming for your courses.
- **Ask Us to Buy Films:** <https://library.pitt.edu/media-purchase-form>
  - We work with faculty to identify streaming media content for your courses and also order physical items.
- **Place Physical Media on Course Reserve:** <https://library.pitt.edu/request-course-reserves>
  - We have physical media on reserve Course Reserve at the Donald S Wood Service desk on the first floor of Hillman Library.
  - Most of the film collection is circulating, except for select items placed on course reserve or for classroom instruction. Film and video materials may be borrowed from Media Services and viewed on the Stark Viewing Stations on the ground floor of Hillman. There are also portable USB 2.0 external DVD drives available for checkout in the Media Services Office (G41). There will also be a viewing station on the ground floor, available during all library hours.
  - The film collection has been moved off-site to Thomas Boulevard Library Storage and is requestable through PittCat. Items that are not checked out can be ready for you within 24-48 hours.
    - To expedite your request, please place a Get-It request for the film you are interested in, and library staff will pull the item for you.
    - If you intend to use films either for classroom instruction or as assignments for your students, we highly recommend our Course Reserves service. Placing films on Course Reserve:
      - ensures the film are here at Hillman when you need them for class,
      - limits borrowing policies to ensure everyone in your class has access to the materials,
      - gives students access to lists of course materials via PittCat,
      - consolidates materials to one single location--e.g., films from our collection, our regional campuses, and even your own personal copies can all be held in one location and remain organized, well-maintained, and accessible to you and your students.
- **Media Conversion**
  - For questions about media duplication/digitization of physical media, please contact the Center for Teaching and Learning. <https://teaching.pitt.edu/contact/>
    - The Center for Teaching and Learning Media Content Conversion Request Form <https://teaching.pitt.edu/classroom-services/media-conversion-services/>

- For copyright and legal reasons, be aware that you must first check with the library through the media purchase form above to see if an item is available via streaming before converting a physical library item to streaming.
- If the library owns a film in physical format, is there a way to get this uploaded to Canvas so students can watch it there? Yes, we have a process!  
<https://pitt.libanswers.com/faq/374436>
- All this information is gathered on this LibGuide that I update, along with links to databases for streaming: <https://pitt.libguides.com/multimedia/video>

**Fall Workshops:** <https://pitt.libcal.com/calendar/today/>

- Library events and workshops are available on topics related to data visualization, citation management, and more!

**Archives & Special Collections:** Our Archives & Special Collections unit is here to work with you to bring primary materials into your classroom and is available for in-person visits and Zoom visits. Contact Megan Massanelli, [mam687@pitt.edu](mailto:mam687@pitt.edu).

- **Archival Scholars Research Awards for the Spring:** Consider mentoring an undergraduate student in archival research through OUR. \$1000 stipend for the student. Contact Megan Massanelli, [mam687@pitt.edu](mailto:mam687@pitt.edu).

#### **Digital Scholarship and Publishing**

- DSP offers support for Data Management, Data Acquisition and Preparation, Mapping and Geographic Information Systems, Digital Exhibits and Publishing, Metadata, Vocabularies, and Linked Data, Multimedia and Web-based Scholarship through consultations and open office hours via Zoom. <https://library.pitt.edu/Digital-Scholarship-and-Publishing>
- We provide access to high-quality scanning equipment for research and instruction. The space is open to all students, staff, and faculty and is supported by a scanning technician who can provide training, instruction, and consultation for digitization projects.  
<https://library.pitt.edu/open-lab>
- If you or your students need assistance getting started with computational research, we have a suite of research data services (<https://library.pitt.edu/data-management>), including help working with GitHub for code management and R, a popular statistics and data analysis language.

**Consider a Library Statement for your syllabus or to share with students:**

Hillman Library Services & Resources

You have a personal librarian! Contact Robin Kear, liaison librarian to the English Department. She is available to answer questions about library services and resources. Please email her at [rlk25@pitt.edu](mailto:rlk25@pitt.edu). Get personalized, in-depth assistance on your research papers and projects by scheduling a consultation: <http://pitt.libguides.com/robinkear>