Service in the Spotlight

Here at the Library, we do more than just check out books and help you use the computers. We also offer several research assistance services that might come in handy for one of your big projects.

We have so many resources for our diverse fields of study; sifting through databases that aren’t relevant to your class can be overwhelming. Scheduling a research consultation session or contacting a librarian for help can be the key to completing a research project, stress-free.

During a research consultation, we can help you identify resources like scholarly journals, databases, books, and media that are specific to your topic. We can give you tips for starting your research and help you broaden or narrow your topic according to available resources.

In addition to consultations, we offer daily reference services for all PSCC library users, including finding articles, navigating databases, citation help, and catalog help. We also have great Subject Guides on our website for most topics covered at PSCC.

Schedule a research consultation by calling the Reference Desk at 865-539-7107 or sending us an email at askref@pstcc.edu.

We are always happy when we have an opportunity to assist members of the PSCC community, whether you drop by the Reference Desk or contact us ahead of time to arrange a research consultation.

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Stuff for Students

Plagiarism is tricky; it can sneak up on you – and into your papers – even when you think you’ve done everything right.

At the Library, we want to make it as easy as possible for students to avoid plagiarism – using another writer’s words without giving them credit – which can lower students’ scores on papers, or even cause them to fail classes or lose scholarships.

That’s why we have a tutorial on avoiding plagiarism at http://www.pstcc.edu/lib_tutorial/Plagiarism2.htm.

We also offer a guide to doing research – including citing sources – with links to tools for creating citations and checking for plagiarism at http://lib.pstcc.edu/research help.

The English Department also has a page on their website with tips and tools (http://www.pstcc.edu/english/paths/tips.php#VL6anPM-2G4).

When in doubt, ask a librarian at the Reference Desk – in person or through our text and chat services – we will be happy to help you find and use the tools you need.

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Did You Know?

There’s a skeleton in the Library’s closet!

It’s the Human Anatomy & Physiology skeleton, and you can check it out with your PSCC ID.

Charlie is just one of the many things you can find on Reserve. Faculty use our Reserve Services to make materials such as textbooks, study guides, practice tests, and other readings available to their students.

When you check out a reserve item, you can usually keep it for two hours – this is to ensure access for as many students as possible.

Reserve items are for use in the ERC building; call 865-694-6516 or stop by the Circulation Desk for information and assistance with Reserve materials.

So the next time your professor tells you to use an item "on Reserve," bring your PSCC ID to the Circulation Desk at the Library and ask for the item by course number – we are happy to help!

Students can also check out items on reserve in the ERCs at Blount County, Division Street, Magnolia Avenue, and the Open Lab Service Desk at Strawberry Plains – including George II at Magnolia.

Faculty can place books and other items on reserve by bringing the items to the Circulation Desk or ERC along with their name, contact information, course number, and how long the item may be checked out.

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Meet Your Librarian: Karen Cornell

Karen Cornell has been the Acquisitions Librarian at PSCC for 31 years. She graduated from the UT School of Information Science with her MLS in 1994, and attended Purdue for her bachelor’s degree.

She enjoys spending time with her grandchildren, Connor and Isabella, gardening, and socializing with friends and neighbors.

Karen and her husband, Mike, particularly enjoy Christmas, when they compete in their neighborhood’s “Most Decorated House” contest.

After her retirement later this semester, she plans to spend her time organizing her collections. She has collections of Santa Clauses, pink flamingos, and Depression glass.

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Visit the Newsletter online at http://lib.pstcc.edu/about_library/publications for more!