Welcome to Library News in the Physical Sciences  
Spring 2012

Lens Tips and Tricks

Lens offers a Google-like search of the library catalog and results are ranked by relevance. Hence it is often an easier way to search the Library’s holdings than using the catalog interface.  
Lens also offers features that the library catalog lacks such as the ability to:

- Search for **monographs in a series** by series title and volume number
- **Text** yourself titles and call numbers from Lens
- **Browse the shelves** virtually and see the titles that are nearest in call number to the one you have found
- Link to **full text Google Books and Hathi Trust** content when available

a) **Search for monographs in a series by series title and number:**  
Simply write out the full title of the monograph series followed by the volume number. Do not include v or vol.  
Example: Lecture Notes in Mathematics 944

b) **Text yourself titles and call numbers**

c) **Browse the shelves** virtually

d) **Link to full text Google Books and Hathi Trust** content:  
When on a book record check on to the right of the record for a Hathi Trust or Google links to full text. See example below:
Informatics for the Physical Sciences

Vedana Vaidhyanathan is our new Informatics Librarian. Below is her take on why informatics is relevant to the physical sciences:

Informatics is the study and application of information technology to the arts, science and professions, and the study of its use in organizations and society at large. It is both a part of information science and the study of how information science is used. Informatics is a field which has been around over twenty years. It has mainly been attached to the biomedical sciences. It combines the disciplines in the basic sciences with computer science and information science. Informatics came into the forefront of science with the race to decode the human genome. Now that the genome has been decoded, established fields like biophysics and newer genres like translational science are blossoming.

In the physical sciences, informatics has its place because it is where mathematics and computer science coincide with the medical sciences. The same techniques with large datasets are being applied to chemistry as they were applied to biology and the medical sciences. With this there is a great deal of cross-disciplinary and interdisciplinary work that can be done. Analyzing statistics and designing systems are two ways in which informatics combines with the physical sciences.

Collaboration is the key in advancing sciences. No longer is science thought of purely in disciplines. Cross-disciplinary, interdisciplinary work is the future of research. In my role as informatics specialist, I hope to help the students and faculty in the physical sciences collaborate more with the students and faculty in the biological sciences. This collaboration will lead to more research opportunities. The library can be at the center of these partnerships and I hope that in my position as informatics specialist I will help forge connections and advance research here at the University of Chicago.

An interview with Vedana about informatics is available here.

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Web of Science Adds Book Citation Index

In addition to providing information on journal articles, Web of Knowledge now contains information on more than 10,000 books in the sciences. Web of Knowledge users can find journal article references cited within books as well as in other journal articles. References cited within books and book chapters constitute the full bibliographies from these books and chapters, and the platform enables linking to the full text of articles contained in the books’ bibliographies. The database also now provides “times cited” information for books and book chapters.

Search the Book Citation Index content from the familiar Web of Knowledge interface. You can limit your results to just books and book chapters by using the Refine Results feature located on the left side of the results screen. When you find a book or book chapter of interest, use the FindIt! button in the record to look for the book in the online catalog. Books included in Book Citation Index may be available as e-books. If the book is not owned by the University of Chicago, we can usually get a copy for your use via Interlibrary Loan or UBorrow. Individual book chapters for titles we own in print can also be delivered electronically to you using the new Scan and Deliver service.
The Crerar Library is checking out AV equipment at our circulation desk for use in Crerar’s study rooms. The equipment is available on reserve for faculty, students, and staff with current borrowing privileges.

If you are giving a presentation and need a projector, a screen, and a moderate amount of space, you can now find all of those things at Crerar. Projectors are available to check out at the circulation desk, and four group study rooms have been equipped with screens. The projectors attach to most laptop computers.

If you have ever wanted to record a practice presentation to review later, you can now check out an HD video camera and tripod from the circulation desk. Once you are finished, simply attach the camera to your computer with a USB cable and move the file(s) over.

All equipment can be charged for up to four hours, but will be due 30 minutes before the circulation desk closes. A full list of policies and instructions will be included with both the camera and projectors. If you would like to ensure that the equipment will meet your needs feel free to contact us to arrange a time for a demonstration.

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Services

UBorrow: rapid loans from 13 research libraries

The Library has launched a new service called UBorrow that offers rapid access to books from the collections of 12 university libraries in the Midwest and the nearby Center for Research Libraries. Books requested through UBorrow will typically arrive on campus within a week and can be checked out for 12 weeks, with an
option for a 4-week renewal. In many cases, UBorrow provides a better option than recalling a checked out book from another user. Learn more.

Library and IT Services collaboration brings technology training to TECHB@R

The University of Chicago Library and IT Services are partnering to present new, technology-related training programs for the UChicago community at the IT Services TECHB@R in the Regenstein Library. During Spring Quarter, topics include Google Sketch-up, wikis, citation managers (such as Zotero and EndNote), Firefox Add-ons, and the ever popular “Chalk Days,” as well as its other training programs for instructors and students alike. Learn more. Also get help with EndNote, RefWorks and Zotero during our Bibtools office hours Monday 3-5pm.

Exhibitions

Chicago Central: A History of Rails and Trains in the City
The John Crerar Library Atrium
April 16 – October 12, 2012
Chicago’s rapid growth into a major metropolis coincided with the rise of trains as the preeminent form of transportation in America. In the late nineteenth century, Chicago developed into the Midwest’s hub of train transport and a manufacturing center for railroad equipment. The exhibit examines some elements of this history including the city’s stations, trains and rail workers and innovations in train technology.

The Science of Sustainability
Web exhibit:  http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/webexhibits/sustainability/

The Science of Sustainability, an exhibit that ran in Crerar Library in 2010, is now available online. This archived web exhibit explores building practices such as green roofs, recycled building materials, and new energy technologies that can reduce a structure’s environmental impact. The renovated Searle Chemistry Building is featured as an example of green building design.
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The Physical Sciences Newsletter is edited by Jennifer Hart

I invite your comments about *Library News in the Physical Sciences*. Please email me at hartj@uchicago.edu or at 773-702-7569 with any questions about Library resources and services, or with any comments about the content and design of this newsletter.