

To: Members of the Divinity School Community
From: Beth Bidlack, Bibliographer for Religion and Philosophy
Date: January 4, 2008
Re: What's happening in the Library (news for winter 2008)

Greetings from the Library! This quarter I would like to highlight two online resources which may be of interest, as well as a new search engine for finding library resources. I would also like you invite you to attend a workshop and the Library's MLK exhibit.

The two new online resources I'd like to mention are (1) **Oxford Islamic Studies Online**, and (2) **Bar-Ilan's Responsa Online**. According to the Oxford Islamic Studies Online website, this resource includes "over 3,000 A-Z reference entries, chapters from scholarly and introductory works, Qur'anic materials, primary sources, images, and timelines ... designed to provide a first stop for anyone needing information on Islam." If you have been using the Library's CD-ROM version of the Bar-Ilan Responsa Database on the fourth floor, then you should try using on the web version, which may save you a trip to the library. Please note, that problems running this resource on Macs have been reported to the vendor. Both resources can be accessed via the **Database Finder** on the Library's website at <http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/dbfinder>. Browse under subject religion and subcategory all.

Lens (<http://lens.lib.uchicago.edu/>) is the **Library's new search engine or web portal** (i.e., a starting point for gathering information). Here you will find information not only from the library's catalog, but also from other resources, including some electronic resources, e-journals, archive and manuscript finding aids, tables of contents, summaries, and the library's website. Additional resources will be added in the future. Lens will not replace the library's catalog anytime soon. In some cases, using the library's catalog may be more efficient (e.g., locating the call number for a specific, known item), while in other cases Lens may be more helpful (e.g., browsing for resources on a particular topic). Think of Lens as an added discovery tool. For more about Lens, see our FAQ (<http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/lens/faq.html>).

I'd like to invite you to visit the Library's 2008 contribution to the University's **Martin Luther King Week**: an exhibition about **Dr. King's "Letter from Birmingham Jail,"** the source of this year's theme, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." The exhibit is located in the Regenstein Library reading areas on floors two, three, and four. The exhibit begins on the fourth floor with a display about the transmission of the letter. It continues on the third floor with a display about the historical context of the letter and concludes on the second floor with a display of some of the sources referred to in the letter. The exhibit will be on display from **January 15th to February 15th**.

I am planning several **workshops** this quarter, including "Electronic Resources in Religion," and "Writing Your Dissertation." In the Electronic Resources workshop we will discuss how to locate and use some of the major electronic resources in religious studies. In the Writing Your Dissertation workshop, we will talk about some of the challenges faced in writing a dissertation (e.g., organizing your citations and writing a review of scholarship section) and where to find help. Dates, times, and locations will be announced on the DSA email list. If you have any

preferences, please let me know. For other library workshops led by the reference department, including RefWorks, see <http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/using/instruct/winterclasses.html>.

I can be reached by email bbidlack@uchicago.edu, by phone 773-702-8442, or in person in JRL (Joseph Regenstein Library) room 461. If you have any questions or concerns about the Library, please don't hesitate to contact me. Best wishes for the winter quarter!