Trail Blazing, Library-Style!

Freel Library now offers customized online subject guides (LibGuides), which gather together appropriate academic resources for your students. LibGuides can be customized for a subject or even a specific course and can include links to databases, ebooks, reference sources, citation guides and videos. All Canvas web pages now include a link to the MCLA Library in the Course Navigation bar (the left-hand menu within a course), which will take your students to Freel Library’s home page. This link can be redirected to an existing or new LibGuide. Contact Pamela Contakos to redirect the library link to a LibGuide. And take a look at our faculty guide which has information on whom to contact for what, creating links in Canvas to articles in our databases, and resources on assessment and retention.

Over 300 New Online Journals in the Freel Library Collection!

Freel Library has added SPORTDiscus with Full Text from EBSCO to its growing collection of databases. SPORTDiscus with Full Text is the world’s most comprehensive source of full text sports and sports medicine journals, providing complete articles for over 300 journals not previously available in any of our online databases. This database will be of interest to any student researching a wide variety of issues related to sports, including coaching, sports medicine, psychology, training and business. Because we’re adding SPORTDiscus through EBSCO’s EBSCOhost interface, students will find that they are already familiar with the search interface. Access SPORTDiscuss through the EBSCOhost link on the library webpage or under Articles – Health and Medicine, on the library website.

Out of the College Archives: A Trip Down Memory Lane

MCLA has joined colleges and universities all across the country by making its historical yearbooks, from 1911 to 2012, digitized and made available for everyone to enjoy at the Internet Archive. You can also access the yearbooks under Archives and Local History Collections link on the library website. MCLA was founded as The North Adams Normal School in 1894, became the State Teachers College at North Adams in 1932, North Adams State College in 1960 and MCLA in 1997. You’ll find a rich and entertaining history between the digital covers of these gems from the college’s past. The project was carried out with the support of the Hardman Library Fund, the MCLA Foundation and the LYRASIS Mass Digitization Collaborative, a Sloan Foundation grant-subsidized program.
Keeping Up with the Chronicle

Want to follow the hot issues in higher education? Are salaries for faculty and administrators across the country improving? Is student plagiarism as bad as some think? Looking for a new job? Read The Chronicle of Higher Education online and find the answers to these and other important questions. Faculty, staff and students now have online access, on and off campus, to the Chronicle of Higher Education. Weekly editions are available on Monday mornings and are updated daily. Sign up for the Chronicle's e-newsletters, including Academe Today, Wired Campus, Weekly Briefing and Afternoon Update, when you create a free personal account. Or sign up for RSS feeds on education topics of interest to you. To access the Chronicle, click on the title above. If you want to access the Chronicle of Higher Education from home, you will be prompted to enter your MCLA network login ID and password.

We Want to Hear From You and So...

We’ve made it easier. In addition to emailing, calling or stopping by the library, we have a few new ways to get in touch with us. You and your students can use our online chat, which is available on our website, through subject guides, and in EBSCOHost databases, to ask us a question. You can send us a text at 413-241-6662 or you can send us a tweet @mclalibrary. These accounts are monitored during regular business hours and Monday through Thursday from 6pm-10pm and on Saturday afternoons.

Pass the Word - Open Library Sessions for Students

Keep an eye out for announcements regarding open sessions for students (and interested staff and faculty) to learn about our many online library resources and how to access them. Not all students receive an introduction to library resources in their classes, so we’re offering them the opportunity to drop in for an overview of our resources and to ask questions. We plan to schedule sessions on different days of the week and different times of the day, including early evenings, to allow students with varying schedules to find a convenient session. No sign-up will be needed.

No Waiting - More Laptops in the Library

Thanks to Computer Support Services, Freeh Library now has twice as many laptop computers to loan to students for use in the library. The 23 laptops hardly get a chance to recharge they’re in such constant demand. Since we’ve begun offering laptops they’ve been circulated over 10,000 times.

Did You Know? It’s Easy to Find Out if the Library Has an Online Journal, Magazine or Newspaper in Its Databases.

To find out if the full text of articles from a journal, magazine or newspaper is in any of our databases, use our handy Journals A-Z tool. Type in the periodical title and, if it’s available with full text, you’ll be able to click on a link to the appropriate database, where you can search for the article or topic you are interested in.

Freel Library by the Numbers

- ebrary now contains over 78,000 ebooks
- Films on Demand added 3,000 new documentaries this summer and now offers over 11,000 films in a wide range of subjects from such great providers as the BBC, PBS, National Geographic and Ken Burns
- EBSCOhost users generated over 277,900 searches last year