ACA 122 – Library Success: From Community College to University – Text Version

Who do you ask?

RCC Library

- Six staff members, three of which are librarians with master's degrees in Information Studies.
- RCC librarians and staff do a little of everything-- answer research questions, help you use the computers, help you print, check out books, collect fines, teach classes-- the list could go on and on.
- Typically, there is one work-study student each semester.

University Libraries

- Most university librarians have at least a couple of masters degrees, some even hold PhDs.
- University librarians are highly specialized by their degrees and by their departments.
- Larger libraries have work-study students by the dozens so ask for a librarian whenever you’re conducting research.

What will you find?

RCC Library

- One floor in the LRC
- Total collection of more than 27,000 books and audio-visual materials
- Small staff

University Libraries

- Often more than one library on campus. For example, UNC-G has the Walter Clinton Jackson Library and the Music Library.
- Book collections totaling in the millions, federal and state documents, microfilms, and other formats.
- Hundreds of staff

What else will you find?

RCC Library

- The Inter-library Loan service can borrow from 50 other NC Community Colleges AND from “WorldCat” to access hundreds of libraries across the nation
- 140 databases and growing! You can search for scholarly articles, newspaper articles, eBooks, etc.

University Libraries

- Inter-library Loan services may also use “WorldCat” to access millions of library collections across the world
- A large number of databases used for research
- Special collections. For example: rare books and historical projects

How do you find things?

RCC Library
- Search the Catalog, which is organized by the Dewey Decimal Classification System
- Research Guides
- Ask a Librarian:
  - Chat (during operating hours and limited after hours)
  - Email
  - Book a Librarian
  - Text
  - Phone
  - Visit

University Libraries
- Search the Catalog, typically organized by Library of Congress Classification System
- Research Guides
- Ask a Librarian
  - Chat (usually 24/7)
  - Email
  - Facebook
  - Text
  - Phone
  - Visit

When can you visit?

RCC Library
- Monday – Thursday: 7:30 am – 8:00 pm
- Friday: 7:30 am – 3:00 pm

University Libraries
- Often open 7 days a week until am hours and even later during peak times like exam weeks.

Why use any library?

1. Not everything is on the Internet.
2. Not everything on the Internet is free.
3. The Internet is not very organized.
4. There is no quality control on the Internet.
5. Sources on the Internet can be harder to verify.
6. Internet sites come and go.
7. Library online resources are available 24/7.
8. The Internet is a mile wide and an inch deep.
9. You’re already paying for the library.
10. Real live people can help you use the library.

This list is adapted from Mark Herring's "10 Reasons Why the Internet Is No Substitute for a Library," which originally appeared in American Libraries, April 2001, p. 76–78.