Do You Need Research Help? Get Help at Thomas Jefferson Library’s Public Service Desk!

Students, faculty, and staff can visit the Public Service Desk — the one stop shopping for all of their library needs. Do you need help finding books, journal articles, or other sources for a research paper or homework assignment? Librarians can help! Stop in and see us at the Public Service Desk or contact us by phone at 314-516-5057. You can also chat with us online by clicking on the green “Chat Now” link on the Libraries’ homepage (note the link only appears when a librarian is available to answer your question) or by requesting a research consultation either in-person or via email.

Many other services are also available at the Public Service Desk. Here you can check out books, reserve a study room, check out laptops, or ask any other questions about the Library. Stop in and see us today!

Café TJ Policies

Library patrons may not realize that the Café TJ space is open and available even during those periods when it is not staffed by campus food service employees. The Café is open and available for use even when food and beverages are not being served. The hours of the popular Thomas Jefferson Library coffee shop are shorter than regular library hours, and during holiday and intersession periods it is often closed. Library policy prohibits food in the library, though beverages in approved containers are allowed in most of the rest of the building. However, food can be brought into the library so long as it is consumed in Café TJ. The door to the café is always unlocked during open library hours.

Café TJ is also served by the campus wi-fi network. It is also one of the prime people watching sites with its panoramic views of the library entrance. Consider it as a natural location for meeting colleagues and friends at any time during library open hours. The Libraries’ homepage will always have the current day’s open hours for food and beverage service at Café TJ.

Study Rooms Available for Individuals or Groups

There are study rooms available on Level 5 of the Thomas Jefferson Library for group or quiet study. The small study rooms are unlocked and available on a first come, first served basis. You can check out a key to a larger, group study room at the Public Service Desk on Level 3 with a valid UMSL ID card. Rooms are available for two hours. Study rooms need to be vacated 30 minutes prior to the Library’s closing time.
Preparing for Grad School? Looking for a job? Get Help @ the Library!

Getting ready for the next step? Looking to start the interview process or maybe considering graduate school? The Library has your back. Assistance is available for everything from brushing up on your computer skills, interviewing tips, to getting ready to take a licensing exam or graduate entrance test. The University Libraries have sources to help get you there.

*Learning Express Library* is a comprehensive, interactive online database available remotely from the University Libraries’ webpage. It includes interactive practice tests and tutorials designed to help you succeed. Practice tests and study guides are available for many licensing exams such as the NCLEX-RN examination for nursing, GRE (Graduate Record Examination), GMAT (Graduate Management Admission Test), MCAT (Medical College Admission Test), and LSAT (Law School Admission Test), just to name a few.

Help is available for putting together your resume as well as interviewing tips and brushing up on workplace skills in areas such as writing, computers, and algebra.

The resources of *Learning Express* can be accessed a couple of different ways from the main search screen. From this page you can use the search box to enter keywords to describe what you need assistance mastering; EXAMPLE: algebra. Or choose from the dropdown list found on the top banner; EXAMPLE: All Centers – College Center and then choose *Prepare for Graduate School Admissions Exams*. Use the options listed on the left side of the screen to choose your area of interest.

**Important Note:** All users must register using your UMSL login to use the *Learning Express Library*.

Stop by the Public Service Desk if you need any help locating materials or assistance using the databases.

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**New Exhibit at the Mercantile Library**

Do you have time between classes or need a break from studying? Visit the Mercantile Library and see their new exhibit opening on October 9. *Headlines of History: Historic Newspapers of St. Louis and the World Through the Centuries at the St. Louis Mercantile Library* is an exhibition of historic newspapers from the Mercantile’s expansive collections. Key moments in American and world history are presented in examples ranging from the July 17, 1776 *Pennsylvania Ledger* that includes one of the earliest full text copies of *The Declaration of Independence* to the infamous mistaken headline in the *Chicago Daily Tribune*, “Dewey Defeats Truman” in 1948.

This exhibition will be on view through fall 2019 and a full-color catalogue is available.

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**Pokémon Go in the Library!**

The popular Pokémon Go! cellphone app is entrenched on the UMSL campus and in the library. The Library Pyramid, (labeled “Pyramid at UMSL”) at the Thomas Jefferson Library regularly hosts legendary Pokémon, such as Lugia, Zapdos, and Articuno. In addition, there are two PokéStops, “St. Louis Mercantile Library” and “Thomas Jefferson,” at the entrance to the library. Stop by and catch a few Pidgeys and Rattatas, then stock up on Poke Balls, Revive Crystals, and Healing Potions 24 hours a day! Psyduck and Abra make occasional appearances as well.

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**Finding E-books at the Library**

The UMSL Libraries offer access to a vast number of e-books that can all be viewed online through a web browser and many can be downloaded and read on an e-reader, iPad, smartphone, or other mobile device. E-books can be located by searching the Library Catalog or by browsing the Library’s e-book collections. Stop by the Library’s Public Service Desk or contact us online if you need further assistance.

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