Our mission
Integral to Princeton University’s mission, we enrich teaching, learning, and research by providing world-class library services and collections that are responsive to a rapidly changing scholarly environment. In collaboration with a global community of institutions with similar missions, we ensure continuing access to the world’s diverse intellectual and cultural heritage in all its forms.

Our vision
Within Princeton University and across the global academic community, we aspire to be an active and creative partner by stimulating intellectual analysis, providing stewardship, and responding to evolving forms of pedagogy and research.

Architecture Library
Center for Digital Humanities
East Asian Library
Engineering Library
Firestone Library
Lewis Science Library
Marquand Library of Art and Archaeology
Mendel Music Library
Seeley G. Mudd Manuscript Library
Special Collections
Stokes Library
WELCOME!

Princeton University Library (PUL) is one of the world’s foremost research libraries. Serving researchers from around the world, it is a vibrant hub of activity for exploration and discovery.

The Library has a campus-wide presence in nine locations, including the main library, the Harvey S. Firestone Library. Holdings include millions of books, journals, manuscripts, and non-print items in over 200 languages. State-of-the-art technology provides on-site and remote access to thousands of databases, digitized collections, sound recordings, musical scores, films, and more. Unique holdings from our special collections range from such singular items as an Egyptian Book of the Dead (circa 1250 BCE) to the papers of Nobel laureate Toni Morrison.

“At Princeton University Library we are committed to discoverability, state-of-the-art technologies, newly designed workspaces, deep subject expertise, and the development of our world-renowned collections. Our daily focus is on the research needs of each and every scholar.”

Anne Jarvis
Robert H. Taylor 1930 University Librarian

PUL is here to help.

During these challenging times, you can be assured that PUL is here to support you with your work, whether on-campus or online. Our staff includes a specialist in every subject who can help you explore and navigate our vast resources. We look forward to working with you!
When Joan Ricart-Huguet PhD ’18, began research for his dissertation, he was uncertain as to whether or not the type of data he required even existed. Turning to University librarians and PUL staff specialists, Ricart-Huguet quickly found the support and subject expertise that would make a key difference in his research. Our politics librarian, whom Ricart-Huguet called “a master of digging through all the Library has to offer,” led him to key resources for acquiring the information he needed; our data and statistical services specialist helped him analyze and shape his data; and our geospatial information systems and maps librarian worked with him to digitize colonial maps, essential for the data visualization of his research. Joan Ricart-Huguet called their support “amazing.”

We have numerous subject specialists ready to assist each and every grad student, with expertise in their specific field. Subject areas range from computer science and technology to the classics and sociology. Our librarians and specialists work in teams to support research services, collections development and cross-disciplinary exploration.

We welcome requests for personalized 1:1 consultations via video-chat or in person.

Joan Ricart-Huguet received his PhD in Politics from Princeton in 2018 and is now an assistant professor in the Department of Political Science at Loyola University.

To read research Spotlight articles, please visit: library.princeton.edu/news/categories/series-spotlights
Navigating Resources@PUL

The vast resources offered through PUL include access to millions of items at Princeton plus millions more from shared collections with other institutions. You request it, and we will have it ready for you with quick turnaround times.

- 10 million+ printed PUL volumes
- 15 million+ shared materials through the ReCAP consortium (see next page)
- 400,000+ rare or significant works
- 5 million+ manuscripts
- Extensive digital collections of text, data, images, streaming audio, streaming video, and more
- Databases
- Scholarly eBooks
- World Cat, the comprehensive catalog of library holdings in public, private, academic, corporate, school and specialized libraries worldwide
- Journals, newspapers
- Browzine (provides tablet and smart phone access to all e-journals to which Princeton subscribes)
- Dixon eBooks: leisure reading

We offer and recommend a browser extension, ANYWHERE ACCESS, that delivers simple 1-click access to the full-text PDF for both Open Access and library-subscribed content.

Items in over 200 languages

ReCAP storage unit
Princeton, NJ

Borrowing & Document Delivery Services

INTERLIBRARY LOAN
Interlibrary Loan (ILL) provides academic materials not available at the University. Service is available to any member of the University community who needs material for an academic research project or course-related assignment.

BORROW DIRECT
Borrow Direct is a rapid, patron-initiated borrowing and lending service offered by Princeton University Library and 12 partner libraries—Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Duke, Harvard, Johns Hopkins, MIT, Stanford, the University of Chicago, the University of Pennsylvania, and Yale.

ReCAP
The Research Collections and Preservation Consortium (ReCAP) is a preservation facility and shared collections service. Partners include Princeton University, Columbia University, New York Public Library, and Harvard. The University community can access extensive ReCAP holdings through our catalog.

ARTICLE EXPRESS
ArticleExpress is the Library’s electronic document delivery service available to current members of the Princeton University community. Journal articles, book chapters or selections, conference proceedings papers, and newspaper articles are available through ArticleExpress.

CENTER FOR RESEARCH LIBRARIES
As a member of the Center for Research Libraries, the Library has access to unique traditional and digital resources for research and teaching, available through interlibrary loan and document delivery.

Using our website

Your gateway to information begins with the Library website (library.princeton.edu). Terms entered in the search bar are searched across the entire site. The site also provides practical information (hours, circulation procedures, services, collections descriptions, contacts, and more).

EXPLORE OUR COLLECTIONS AND OTHER RESOURCES
Try any of the options (CATALOG, ARTICLES+, DATABASES) on the Library homepage (library.princeton.edu) and discover a wide variety of research information from the catalog, article databases, digital collection repositories, and other resources.

BOOKS, JOURNALS, AND ITEMS IN SERIES
Use the Catalog to find records for books, journals, newspapers, videos, sound recordings, and similar materials, regardless of format. Many electronic resources are accessible directly from links embedded in catalog records. Click on the WHERE TO FIND IT link to see where the item is shelved.

ARTICLES, ESSAYS AND SIMILAR MATERIALS
Click the ARTICLES+ tab on the Library homepage to search for journal, periodical, newspaper and other types of articles across many of Princeton’s databases. You can also click on the DATABASES tab below the search window to choose a specific database by name or by subject. Use FindIt@PUL to obtain the full text via the Library’s ArticleExpress service. Click on VIEW PDF from Anywhere Access.

RESERVE READINGS
Electronic reserve readings will ordinarily be available from the Blackboard site for each course. Print reserve readings are available at the Circulation Desks of Firestone and several other libraries. Reserve items for graduate courses are often kept on shelves in graduate study rooms.

CAN’T FIND A BOOK?
If a book is not checked out and not located on the shelf, click on the TRACE A BOOK link at the bottom of the page under Library Services. If the book is checked out, missing, or lost, use the REQUEST button to obtain it through Borrow Direct, interlibrary loan, or recall.

ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE
If you need additional assistance, please consult staff at any of the Library locations or use Ask Us/Chat.
Graduate students have unprecedented opportunities for research and teaching within Special Collections whose holdings span five millennia, six continents, and many formats. Our holdings range from such singular items as an Egyptian Book of the Dead (circa 1250 BCE) to the papers of Nobel laureate Toni Morrison and the records of the American Civil Liberties Union. We welcome graduate students to explore our collections for anything from your first paper through (and after) your dissertation.

If you’re developing a syllabus, contact us to learn how we can support you through our Teaching with Collections initiative. Each year more than 300 University classes utilize Special Collections, providing students with the opportunity to study first-hand historical documents, books, and other items seldom encountered. Our curators and specialists provide knowledgeable guidance across disciplines and subjects.

With the Center for Digital Humanities based in Firestone Library, a new horizon of research possibilities using special collections for digital scholarship is open. We invite you to call upon us to assist you on your educational journey.


“Arts of the Medieval Book” class with Beatrice Kitzinger (right), assistant professor of art and archaeology


“Arts of the Medieval Book” class with Beatrice Kitzinger (right), assistant professor of art and archaeology

“Young Elizabeth Bloom, PhD Candidate, Program in French

“it’s one of the many advantages of studying at a university like Princeton. We have this collection of Montaigne which is so rare, and it was so wonderful that we’re taking a class on Montaigne, and then we get to come into the Library and work with not only the books but with [library] specialists.”

Elisabeth Bloom, PhD Candidate, Program in French

Working with the Latin American ephemera collection

Toni Morrison’s handwritten manuscript of Beloved


library.princeton.edu/special-collections
Exploring Locations @ PUL

In support of our strategic priority to “develop and deploy programs that place Library Services where users work and interact,” PUL has nine locations across campus, serving every discipline, including the humanities, architecture, East Asian studies, music and the performing arts, art and archaeology, science, engineering, political science, public policy papers, and University archives.

Each location offers unique spaces that support both individual study and collaborative work. Grad student carrels, lockers, and study rooms are available at most locations.

Firestone Library Grad Student Reading Room
Lewis Science Library

individual study spaces
 collaborative work areas
 graduate reading rooms
carrels and lockers
multimedia and white boards
standing desks
natural light
printers and scanners
tech support and equipment software programs

“The African American reading room in Firestone became an intellectual home I needed. The resources of the Library proved to be invaluable.”

Danielle K. Taylor-Guthrie
former graduate student
Considered one of the largest open-stack libraries in existence, Harvey S. Firestone Memorial Library serves as the main campus library at Princeton and assumes primary responsibility for Princeton's humanities and social sciences collections as well as a number of specialized research support services. Home to Rare Books and Special Collections, it also houses treasures such as the autographed manuscript of F. Scott Fitzgerald's "The Great Gatsby" and the papers of Nobel laureates Toni Morrison and Mario Vargas Llosa.

Other services within Firestone include Data and Statistical Services, which provides data and statistical consulting for students of all disciplines, and Video Services, which supports use of video technology in teaching and research.

Located in the Firestone lobby and open to the public, the new Ellen and Leonard Milberg Gallery highlights PUL's collections while also drawing upon complementary collections from our campus partners and institutions. Also open to the public and located in the lobby is the gallery in Cotsen Children's Library, which holds an extensive research collection of illustrated children's books.

library.princeton.edu/firestone

The Architecture Library supports the research and teaching needs of the School of Architecture. Its holdings specialize in modern and contemporary architecture and design, the history and theory of architecture, urban studies, landscape architecture, preservation, and city planning.

The collection constitutes approximately 35,000 volumes on-site with thousands more housed off-site. The library subscribes to more than 300 domestic and international periodicals, and has a growing collection of rare materials as well as a video collection, focusing broadly on productions relating to the built environment. The library also holds a growing collection of e-books on the topics of material science and computer-aided design and fabrication, and houses the Material Samples Collection, and extensive array of materials available for research and design.

Well versed in the particular needs of architectural research and instruction, library specialists are readily available to work with students, faculty and staff to provide multiple levels of assistance to assist with everything from the basics of searching the catalog and navigating the library's borrowing and lending services, to providing in-depth scholarly research consultations.

library.princeton.edu/architecture
East Asian Library

The East Asian Library collects materials in all subjects in Chinese, Japanese, and Korean, supporting both the research undertaken in the Department of East Asian Studies and any research on East Asia in any other department. The collections cover comprehensively traditional literature, history, religion and civilization, but modern and contemporary studies are also extensively represented. In Western languages, the East Asian Library holds works on East Asian literature, linguistics, and book history. Works on other subjects are held in other libraries, such as Firestone or Marquand.

Expert subject specialists on China, Japan, and Korea are available to provide help with all levels of research, whether primarily using English or East Asian languages, from traditional classic subjects to contemporary statistics. A wide variety of databases is available. The reference room in the East Asian Library is the primary place for starting any kind of research. Library specialists are available for research and instructional consultations via one-on-one consultations, emails, and calls.

library.princeton.edu/eastasian

Marquand Library

Marquand Library of Art and Archaeology holds over half a million print volumes, nearly 10,000 rare books, and some 1,400 current serial subscriptions. The library supports research in scholarly art history from antiquity to present with coverage in fine and decorative arts, media and performance art, architecture, garden design, and archaeology. Concentrations of note are classical art and archaeology, art of the ancient Near East and pre-Columbian Americas, and early Christian, Byzantine, medieval, and renaissance art. There are extensive resources on baroque through contemporary art, photography, and the arts of China and Japan.

Marquand acquires nearly 20,000 new and antiquarian items annually, including books, exhibition catalogs, journals, indexes, and reference materials in print and electronic form, as well as image databases and videos. Nearly half of annual expenditures are directed towards special collections. Marquand is considered a library of record, preserving historic editions and buying retrospectively as well as supporting emerging areas of interest.

library.princeton.edu/marquand
Lewis Science Library

The Lewis Science Library houses impressive collections and knowledgeable staff supporting Astrophysics, Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Studies, Geosciences, Mathematics, Neuroscience, Physics, Psychology, and the Map and Geospatial Information (GIS) Center.

The library houses an extraordinary collection of science research content, including print and electronic versions of books and journals, maps, online resources, and databases. Included in the Lewis Science Library is the Fine Hall wing which houses print volumes and other extensive collections, course reserves, and the Map and GIS Center.

Throughout the library, researchers will find group study rooms, classrooms, lockers, a 20-PC e-classroom with specialized software, computer clusters, and network printers.

Librarians with deep expertise in science research methods are available at Lewis for consultations.

library.princeton.edu/lewis

Engineering Library

Located in a newly constructed space adjacent to the Lewis Science Library, the Engineering Library sets a national standard for the integration of print and electronic resources. Through a physical layout that flows from Lewis into Fine Hall and the resources it offers, the library fosters the perfect environment for collaborative work. Scheduled to open this fall, PUL's first-ever makerspace is positioned between Lewis Science Library and the Engineering Library. Further information will be available soon.

The library works closely with other library departments to serve over 140 faculty, 1200 undergraduate students and 500 graduate students. It provides research and instructional services in support of the research and education mission of the School of Engineering and Applied Science and its affiliated programs and centers.

The Engineering Library houses the Material Samples Collection (bottom left image), a resource created to provide inspiration, inform design thinking, and foster innovation. The Architecture and the Engineering Libraries worked collaboratively to acquire this extraordinary array of materials which is available for research and design at both locations.

library.princeton.edu/engineering
Mendel Music Library

Mendel is a vital resource for students, researchers, and scholars of music, dance, musical theater, and related disciplines. Extraordinary collections include over 85,000 monographs, 60,000 scores, 83,000 sound recordings (52,000+ are CDs), 5,100 video recordings, 18,000 microfilm titles, 1,000 print periodical titles (with many more online), and a significant “locked” collection of rarer books and score imprints.

Mendel’s collections support the complex and varied research and performance needs of Princeton’s preeminent music faculty, some 50 graduate students in musicology, music theory, and composition, undergraduate music majors and non-majors participating in the various performance ensembles, and Princeton students, faculty, and staff from all subject areas who include music as part of their interdisciplinary study or personal interest. The Mendel Music Library also houses collections in musical theater and dance, and supports the Lewis Center for the Arts curriculum for the programs in theater, dance, and music theater. Since we are open to the public, our collections are also widely consulted by researchers from all over the Northeast and beyond.

library.princeton.edu/music

Mudd Manuscritp Library

The Seeley G. Mudd Library, part of Princeton University Library’s Special Collections, is a repository constructed in 1976 to house the Princeton University Archives and a highly regarded collection of 20th-century public policy papers. Mudd offers instructional services in support of the University’s mission to advance learning through scholarship, research, and teaching.

The archival and manuscript material in Mudd Library’s possession are widely used by local, national, and international researchers. They include manuscript collections/archives, correspondence, publications, phonograph recordings, audio and video tapes, films, photographs, and born-digital files. Mudd Library staff are available to answer reference questions in person and by phone or email during our regular operating hours.

While this location is temporarily closed for renovations, the collections will be available via the Firestone Special Collections Reading Room until the building reopens in early 2021. Please visit the website below for up-to-date details on how to arrange access, or contact us at mudd@princeton.edu with any questions or requests.

library.princeton.edu/special-collections/mudd
Stokes Library

Stokes Library is the primary point-of-contact for Library Services for the School of Public and International Affairs (SPIA) and the Office of Population Research (OPR). In addition to housing the SPIA Reserve Collection and the Ansley J. Coale Population Research Collection, the Stokes librarians and staff work closely with faculty and students to provide:

- Classroom instruction
- In-depth, one-on-one research consultations
- Data visualization support
- Bibliographic management software guidance
- Assistance with NIH Public Access Policy compliance for OPR affiliates
- Reserve materials processing
- Document delivery
- Virtual reality support and borrowing

The comfortable, well-lit library offers quiet study space, stand-up desks, collaborative study rooms, an electronic classroom and book scanning facilities, along with work stations for specialized quantitative research. If you would like assistance, please contact a Stokes librarian.

library.princeton.edu/stokes

Data Services & Resources

Data and Statistical Services
Data and Statistical Services provides expert advice to Princeton University students, faculty, and staff on choosing appropriate data, application of quantitative research methods, the interpretation of statistical analyses and data conversion. dss.princeton.edu

Maps & Geospatial Information
The Maps and Geospatial Information Center provides access to paper maps, geospatial data, digital maps, and geographic information systems (GIS) services as well as ongoing reference, instruction, and research consultation. library.princeton.edu/collections/pumagic/collections

Princeton Research Data Service
A joint initiative between the Office of the Dean for Research, Office of the University Librarian, and the Office of Information Technology, the service provides the Princeton research community with the services and infrastructure needed to store, manage, retain, and curate digital research data, and to make digital research data available to the broader research community and to the public. researchdata.princeton.edu

Scholarly Communications Office
Offering the Open Access Repository, copyright guidance, and Open Access Publication Fund, the Scholarly Communications Office helps Princeton researchers share their findings with the world. library.princeton.edu/services/scholarly-communications

Stokes Viz Hub
Offering workshops and instruction, this new hub at Stokes Library assists students, faculty, and staff with data visualization for their research and assignments. library.princeton.edu/stokes
The Library has a campus-wide presence in nine locations, including the main library, the Furth Plasma Physics Library and the Research Collections and Preservation Consortium (ReCAP) are located on the University’s Forrestal Campus.

Off campus locations: Furth Plasma Physics Library and the Research Collections and Preservation Consortium (ReCAP) are located on the University’s Forrestal Campus.

Where you can find us

1 Architecture Library
Located in the School of Architecture Building
library.princeton.edu/architecture

2 East Asian Library
Located in the Frid Campus Center
library.princeton.edu/eastasian

3 Engineering Library
Located in Fine Hall
library.princeton.edu/engineering

4 Firestone Library (Main Library)
One Washington Road
library.princeton.edu/firestone
Also located in Firestone Library:
Center for Digital Humanities (cdh.princeton.edu)
Cotsen Children’s Library (princeton.edu/cotsen)
Data and Statistical Services (dss.princeton.edu)
Special Collections (library.princeton.edu/special-collections)
Video Services Center (library.princeton.edu/videoservices)

5 Lewis Science Library
Located in the Peter B. Lewis Library, Ivy Lane
library.princeton.edu/lewis

6 Marquand Art Library
Located in McCormick Hall
library.princeton.edu/marquand

7 Mendel Music Library
Located in Woolworth Center
library.princeton.edu/music

8 Mudd Manuscript Library
65 Olden Street
library.princeton.edu/special-collections/mudd

9 Stokes Library
Located in Wallace Hall
library.princeton.edu/stokes
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fpul.princeton.edu