Ronald Williams Library

The Ronald Williams Library is located on the west side of the main campus and provides seating for more than 600 users, with 43 public computer workstations and numerous study areas. It has five floors totaling over 140,000 square feet and contains approximately 700,000 volumes of print materials. In addition, approximately 500,000 other educational resources such as journals, audio recordings, microfilms, maps, documents, and DVDs are housed in the Library. Special features include services for people with disabilities, the Center for Teaching and Learning, the Language Learning Lab, the Learning Success Center, the Center for Academic Writing and two classrooms for library instruction. See the Library’s web site at http://www.neiu.edu/library for further information and access to electronic resources.

Reference and Instruction

Help in using the Library’s collection and locating information for study and research is available at the Reference Desk, located on the first floor. Library faculty are available to work with teaching faculty to develop information literacy assignments and teach course-related library instruction sessions to students.

Circulation

Library users may charge out materials at the Circulation Desk situated next to the entrance on the first floor.

Reserve

Instructors may deposit materials, including textbooks, at the Circulation Desk to be placed on Reserve. The Library will purchase textbooks upon instructor request.

Interlibrary Loan

Because the Library is a member of the Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois (CARLI), Northeastern students, faculty and staff may borrow materials from 86 academic libraries in Illinois. With a valid ID card, patrons may borrow materials from CARLI libraries through I-Share, the consortium’s online catalog, or by visiting these libraries directly. Patrons may also borrow materials from other libraries that are not affiliated with CARLI by using ILLiad, an online service available on the Library’s website.

Collections and Archives

Electronic Resources

The Library subscribes to over 150 databases for accessing journal articles, magazines and newspapers, ebooks, streaming audio and video, and more. Online access is available to NEIU students, faculty, and staff from both on- and off-campus with an NEIU NetID and password. Assistance with using these materials is available at the Reference Desk.

Curriculum Materials

The Curriculum Materials Collection (CMC) is located on the third floor and is designed to support coursework and curriculum development in professional education and teaching. It includes curriculum guides and other teaching resources to support classroom instruction.

Multimedia Learning Resource Center (MLRC)

The MLRC on the third floor houses the Library’s extensive media collections along with preview facilities and equipment. The MLRC also provides access to computing resources for digital media editing.

Periodicals and Government Documents

The print periodical and government document collections are located on the second floor. The Ronald Williams Library is a depository for both federal and Illinois state documents.

IRAD and University Archives

The Library is the Illinois Regional Archives Depository (IRAD) for Chicago and Cook County. It holds and provides access to part of the city and county’s archival materials. The Library also maintains the historical documents of Northeastern Illinois University in the University Archives. Both collections are located on the lower level of the Library. Assistance is provided by library staff and several IRAD interns.

Additional Locations

Carruthers Center for Inner City Studies (CCICS)

The Ronald Williams Library includes a branch library to support the Inner City Studies program. The collection, consisting of over 29,000 books, periodicals, microforms, and other research materials, is located at 700 East Oakwood Boulevard in Chicago.
El Centro Campus

The Ronald Williams Library includes a Library & Learning Resource Center (LLRC) at the El Centro campus, located at 3390 North Avondale in Chicago. The LLRC is equipped and staffed to facilitate access to library resources and the delivery of print materials from other libraries.