

What Can A Librarian Do For You?

- Teach a library instruction session customized to your assignment(s).
- Create a handout or web guide for your class that highlights library resources of interest.
- Help you develop assignments that deter plagiarism when students use full text, online resources.
- Consult with you to update or develop library research assignments that will support your instructional goals.
- Help you place materials on reserve, whether electronically or in print.
- Help you link to online library resources from your OAK course or course web page.
- Order books or multimedia resources to support your teaching.
- Answer questions you might have about library policies and resources.

For more information:
www.library.vanderbilt.edu

Need Help? Ask Us!
www.library.vanderbilt/askus

Assignments & Your Library

*Tips for
Faculty & TAs*



Librarians are in the unique position of working with large numbers of students as they try to complete their class assignments. Based upon our observations and conversations with faculty, here are some common problems students have when doing their assignments.

Some Obstacles To Student Success

1. Over-reliance on Google. Students don't often go beyond the familiar Internet search to more scholarly resources.

2. Inability to read a citation. Is it a book? Is it an article? If students don't know, they can't find the articles and books you refer them to.



3. Can't tell the difference between scholarly and popular resources.

If a bibliography is full of questionable sources, it may be difficult for you to evaluate the quality of the student's writing and analytical skills.

4. Don't know which database or print resource to start with. The library offers over 300 databases, over 20,000 journals and millions of books. Students may be unsure about how to start their research.

How Can Librarians Help?

Librarians offer a variety of services to help faculty and TAs achieve their instructional goals. These include:

- Library sessions tailored to your class or assignment.
- Assistance with adding links to your course pages for library resources that can be used on or off campus. NOTE: Proxy information is used in links for off-campus access.
- A review of your assignment to make sure that the library resources you've assigned are still current.



Make Sure Library Resources are Available

Here are some suggestions that will help ensure students will find the resources they need to complete their assignments:

- ◆ **Submit library purchase requests for course related materials as early as possible.**
- ◆ **Consider placing a book, article, or other material on reserve or e-reserve, especially if more than one student will want to use it.**
- ◆ **Many articles and book chapters are already online. Ask your subject librarian if you need assistance making a link to online resources.**

Access these Library Services at:
www.library.vanderbilt.edu

Remember! No library has in-depth collections on every topic.

Consider contacting a subject librarian when developing an assignment to determine if the library has the resources students need to complete it successfully.

For a list of Vanderbilt librarians by subject:
lib11.library.vanderbilt.edu/diglib/heard-librarians.pl



For library locations, hours, services, etc. visit the individual library homepage:
www.library.vanderbilt.edu/heard/division.shtml

Or visit the main library website:
www.library.vanderbilt.edu



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