MOST POPULAR BOOKS AT ALKEK LIBRARY

Top Fiction

1. Nineteen Eighty-Four
   George Orwell
2. The Great Gatsby
   F. Scott Fitzgerald
3. Brave New World
   Aldous Huxley
4. Atlas Shrugged
   Ayn Rand
5. Lolita
   Vladimir Nabokov
6. Of Mice and Men
   John Steinbeck
7. Things Fall Apart
   Chinua Achebe
8. The Catcher in the Rye
   J.D. Salinger
9. Ender’s Game
   Orson Scott Card
10. Invisible Man
    Ralph Ellison

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Things are really moving fast at the Alkek Library. From the opening day of the fall semester to the end of the spring finals, the doors of the Alkek have been entered more than 1.5 million times. I can hardly believe we have completed a full school year since we unveiled the new upgrades to our main floor. Changes included a complete overhaul of the space through the addition of collaborative and independent work stations, flexible furnishings, a media corner, quick printing stations, an open theater, and a beverage and snack kiosk. All of these changes are designed to help students find what they need to support their individual study and research needs in one common space. It has been amazing to see how the students have embraced the new spaces on the floor and are putting all of them to good use.

As the flow of students, faculty, staff, and researchers through our building grows, we continue to plan for the future while implementing modernizing features and upgrades. In addition to the visible changes, we have been working behind the scenes to support the campus needs. Our digitization team has been converting collections to digital form to make them more accessible. We are excited by the opportunity to work on digitizing faculty projects, university archives and grant awards including our TexShare grant with the San Marcos Daily Record that will allow us to archive the history of San Marcos through the lenses of the photographers who recorded it.

The Round Rock Campus Library is also growing at a fast rate. As the university expands to meet the growing demand for health care education, we are making plans for campus library expansion.

Over the next few months, we will continue to advance our mission through projects and facility openings. This summer, we launch the Texas State University Dataverse, a new data repository for faculty and graduate students that will allow them to make their research data public. By fall, the new Archives and Research Center will open at the Star Park campus. This state-of-the-art facility will allow us to maintain and preserve the library’s collections and materials in a climate-controlled space and will expand the library’s capacity allowing us to add technology that will serve our emerging research campus. And some time next fall, a new video recording studio will open in the Alkek for students and faculty to use to record projects and presentations.

Next, we are pleased to be moving into the design phase of the $11.8 million library renovation project. This project will bring together technology, research, teaching, collaboration, creativity, and innovation through a learning commons model of library modernization. Features we will be adding in the Alkek Library include a virtual reality center, a library café, presentation practice and recording labs, a makerspace, a digital media center, a GIS/Data Research Hub, and a graduate student commons area.

It’s been a great academic year and next year will be even better. Thank you to all of you who have supported our efforts to serve this university. Please continue to communicate with us about how we can meet your needs.

Joan Heath, AVP and University Librarian
Texas State Data Repository Launches for Sharing Research

ARE YOU a graduate student or faculty member who possesses research data you would like to publish or share? Are you applying for federal grants and need to show compliance for federal data sharing requirements? A new data-centered initiative, the Texas Data Repository will officially launch at Texas State this summer. What this means for our scholarly community, is that the university will have its own Texas State University Dataverse for faculty and graduate students for searching, data sharing, and collaboration across university and state levels.

Data repositories are still fairly cutting edge in terms of technology and capabilities. The library has appointed data repository liaisons to help faculty and graduate students with uploading/ingesting data and creating metadata for their research. Texas State’s instance of the larger repository is based on the Harvard Dataverse Framework. Faculty members and graduate students will be able to upload their research data into the repository and will also be able to publish their data or keep it private and use the repository as a shared research collaborative so other geographically dispersed research group members can access the data.

Researchers will also be able to create their own dataverses (data centers) within Texas State’s data repository so that they can aggregate their own disciplinary research data. The repository will also importantly be able to create permalinks (Digital Object Identifiers and Universal Numerical Fingerprints) so that researchers can cite and link from published or online articles directly to their data in more permanent web locations. This publishing and citation ability provides instant global sharing for wider international communities of research and also fulfills U.S. federal agency requirements for public access to data. The initiative also aids in verifiability of experimental research.

To find out more about the repository, please see Texas Digital Library reports and Texas Digital Library presentations, and recorded video webinars. Please feel free to contact Alkek Library’s data repository liaison, Dianna Morganti, for more information or to get started. Keep your eyes open for further communication regarding the Texas State University Data Repository official launching later this summer.

Texas State University Theses and Dissertations Online

DID YOU KNOW that most of Texas State’s current theses and dissertations are available online through our collections repository and directly through Google Search? Texas State Theses and Dissertations have been collectively downloaded more than a half million times in the past five years – 646,440 times to be exact from 2012-2016 with 173,594 downloads in 2016 alone! Highest ranking theses downloads for the past five years include topics ranging from Japanese Mythology to Moonlight in the Movies to American Soldiers and POW’s to Mobile Dating and Tinder. Theses topics’ popularity also differ depending upon different geographic areas of the world and associated preferences and needs. For example, a Texas State thesis entitled Hamas in Gaza became one of the most popular downloads for Europe from 2012-2017, while another thesis entitled Ancestral Pharmacopeias in South Africa became the heavy hitter for the African continent. Interestingly, Asia’s number one Texas State University thesis download for this time period was a Content Analysis of Teen Pregnancy Prevention Curricula, while Oceania’s top download was on Mobile Dating and Tinder.

From technological perspectives, what is great about Texas State’s online thesis and dissertation repository is that our theses become directly available through Google search. So, typing in “Mobile Dating in the Digital Age” in Google brings Texas State Alumnus Jessica James’ thesis up as the top result in a list of 3,530,000 results of this topic. From academic reputation and impact perspectives, this translates to citations in other scholars’ work and possible presentation and speaking engagements for the graduate student. From information science perspectives, a higher ‘citation’ count raises a scholar or graduate student’s reputation and ‘impact’ factor as their work is cited in bibliographies by other researchers. These are good reasons for any scholar to place their work in the repository if they wish to raise their profile or awareness of their work. Currently, the Digital Collections Repository is open to all faculty and graduate students for thesis and dissertations through Vireo and the Graduate School and faculty for academic research. Please feel free to log in and use the repository’s self-submission process or contact Todd Peters for help or more information on uploading your research.

Articles on this page by Ray Uzwyshyn, Director, Collections and Digital Services
Where to Publish and How to Avoid “Predatory Publishers”

Librarians often get asked about whether or not the email they just received from a publisher is on the up and up. In today’s evolving publishing world, it is a good idea to do a little research about the publisher or the journal before submitting your article for publication, or even worse, paying an enormous publishing fee. Libraries have been dealing with the publishing industry for years and have identified resources and tools to determine the validity of a publisher or journal. Many of the resources have been around for years, and are probably used by researchers as well, due to the authority they’ve earned. See the chart at right for some of the best resources. This information and more is available in the Where to Publish Your Research library guide.

Some things to look for when considering publishers:
Now that you’re able to locate potential journals in which to publish, the next step is to evaluate those journals for:
- Journal ranking (through JCR and other citation analysis databases)
- Impact factors
- Acceptance rates
- Author friendly policies for publication
- Publishing standards and ethics organizations

Journal policies should be evaluated. Author’s retaining copyright is a key factor in the future use of the published material.

Other recommended organizations:
COPE (Committee on Publications Ethics)
COPE does not investigate individual publications, rather they provide guidelines and a code of conduct for researchers AND publishers.

OASPA (Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association)
Their mission is to “represent the interests of Open Access (OA) journal and book publishers globally in all scientific, technical, and scholarly disciplines. This mission will be carried out through exchanging information, setting standards, advancing models, advocacy, education, and the promotion of innovation.”

ROAD: the Directory of Open Access scholarly Resources | ISSN
ROAD has been developed with the support of the Communication and Information Sector of UNESCO, it provides a free access to a subset of the ISSN Register. This subset comprises bibliographic records which describe scholarly resources in Open Access identified by an ISSN: journals, monographic series, conference proceedings, and academic repositories. ROAD records are enriched by metadata about the coverage of the resources by indexing and abstracting databases, registries, and journals indicators.

SHERPA/RoMEO
RoMEO is part of SHERPA Services based at the University of Nottingham. RoMEO has collaborative relationships with many international partners, who contribute time and effort to developing and maintaining the service of providing journal copyright policies and self-archiving information.

SPARC (Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition)
SPARC works to enable the open sharing of research outputs and educational materials in order to democratize access to knowledge, accelerate discovery, and increase the return on our investment in research and education.

WAME (World Association of Medical Editors)
The new WAME Professionalism Code of Conduct for medical journal editors was created after extensive discussions at WAME’s 2015 International Conference for Medical Journal Editors.

by Lisa Ancelet, Head Research, Instruction & Outreach and Selene Hinojosa, Collection Development Librarian

Library Resources for Identifying Potential Publishers & Journals

- Journal Citation Reports (JCR) ranks journal titles by how often they are cited in academic/research articles. The impact factor provides a systematic, objective way to determine the relative importance of journals to research within their subject category.
- Cabell’s offers a suite of metrics to empower users to make quick and informed decisions. Derived from raw citation data licensed from Scopus*, Cabell’s metrics use statistical algorithms to create powerful perspectives for evaluation.
- Scopus is the largest abstract and citation database of peer-reviewed literature. It features smart tools to track, analyze and visualize scholarly research; If indexed in Scopus, journals are considered important to the discipline.
- Web of Science is a comprehensive citation index covering the leading scholarly literature around the world. Contains Journal Citation Reports. (combined Citation Indexes).
- DOAJ Directory of Open Access Journals from Lund University Libraries lists the “best practices” they apply to those journals they choose to include.
Meet Our Staff

Sarah Chestnut: “My favorite thing about the library is that we are constantly adapting to meet the needs of our patrons.”

This edition’s staff feature brings you Sarah Chestnut, a Retroactive Cataloger.

Sarah works in the Continuing Resources Unit, which manages the periodical collection’s catalog. Check out that collection; it’ll surprise you.

“Specifically, my position is retroactive cataloging,” she says, “I edit records we already have that need updating. The library is currently requiring a vast amount of retroactive cataloging in order to prepare most of the periodical collection that will soon go to the new Archives and Research Center (ARC).”

Sarah ensures these records are as descriptive as possible prior to going to the ARC, so patrons can have an accurate understanding of the resource before requesting it.

“We were hoping to move the entire microform collection to the ARC as well, but we quickly found that a majority of the collection was suffering from vinegar syndrome,” which, “apart from giving off a foul vinegar smell that can cause headaches, is a condition that severely shrinks, curls, and crumbles microform material … and it will spread.” Sarah conducts tests on the microform collection to determine what can be saved and what has to be replaced. Salvageable items are placed in archival sleeves and acid-free boxes. Unsalvageable items are weeded to prevent the vinegar syndrome from spreading. Weeded titles are replaced to maintain patron accessibility to valuable resources.

“My favorite thing about the library is that we are constantly adapting to meet the needs of our patrons. When I tell people I work at a library and plan on receiving my master of library sciences, I am often met with the question, ‘aren’t libraries a dying business due to the increase in technology?’ Quite the contrary, I have seen that an increase in technology can only increase the meaning and functions of a library, and I am proud to know that the Alkek team is doing everything possible to stay up to date for our patrons.”

Thanks, Sarah! And thank you for reading. See you at the library.

by Robert Gutierrez, Head Cataloging Assistant

Student Excellence Awards

Students Honored at Student Recognition and Awards Program

It takes a small army to run a library and the Alkek Library could not run smoothly without the large unit of 88 dedicated student soldiers that support its programs and services.

The student workers at the Alkek were honored at a Student Recognition and Awards event for the work they have done over their time working at the library. Five of them received awards for outstanding service and had their names inscribed on a Student Excellence Plaque that will hang in the Alkek staff lounge.

Isabella Bortolussi has worked in the Wittliff Collections Cataloging area since December of 2015 working with records and sorting materials. Isabella is a senior with a double major in anthropology and Spanish and a minor in biology.

Christina McCourt has worked in Periodicals/Media since August 2015. She mans the service desk and assists patrons with various needs. Christina is a graduate student in psychology.

Austin Hill has worked in the Wittliff Collections where he greets guests, answers phones, and assists with events. Austin is a junior history major.

Jessica Gaitan supports the Continuing Resources Cataloging unit where she processes materials. She is a junior pursuing a math degree.

Ashton Woodward (not pictured) began working in the Digital & Web Services area in the Fall of 2014. She digitizes unique and often fragile items using delicate electronics. Ashton is a senior majoring in English.
Have a presentation and want to make sure that people can hear you loud and clear? Need to watch a Blu-ray but you don’t have a Blu-ray player? Want to listen to some music while studying in the library but you left your earbuds at your home? The library now checks out equipment that can help you out!

The library has been checking out headphones and a small collection of calculators for a while now, but starting this semester we have greatly expanded the number of equipment items we circulate.

At Periodicals/Media on the Alkek third floor, patrons can now check out equipment such as a Samson Portable USB Mic, the Peavey Escort PA system, GPS units, Blu-ray/DVD players, Panasonic camcorders, a portable Pico projector, and more. You can find a list of the equipment in our library catalog.

Some important information:

- The library provides the equipment for circulation. However, it is up to the patron to learn how to operate the equipment. There is no tech support or training available.
- Checkout of the equipment is free! But...items that are returned late will be assigned fines. If items are not returned, the patron will have to pay replacement cost. Please consult our borrowing policies for more information.
- There is a limited amount of equipment available. For example, while the library checks out calculators, many times all of them are checked out at the same time. Please have a back-up plan if the item is not available.
- Equipment cannot be reserved ahead of time.

To find out more information about the types of material we have in Periodicals Media, check out our LibGuide.

by Rory Elliott, Head Collections Merchandising & Expanded Services Administrative Librarian

Browse Government Documents Using the SuDoc System of Classification

DID YOU KNOW Texas State University has had a Federal Depository Library since 1955? The Government Information Collection in the Alkek Library contains over 1.4 million Federal and Texas documents, and free, public access is guaranteed by Title 44 of the United States Code. Unlike the General Collections, which uses the Library of Congress Classification System, the Government Information Collection is organized a bit differently, using a classification system known as SuDoc. The Superintendent of Documents, or SuDoc system, was developed in the United States Government Publishing Office in the 1890s, and classifies documents by their issuing department as opposed to subject. For example, the A section contains documents for the Department of Agriculture, the ED section is Department of Education, and S is the State Department. It is important to remember that all of the classifications are not strictly mnemonic; for instance Congress is designated as X and Y. See the chart on this page that breaks down the different departments and their corresponding letter at the beginning of the call number.

SuDoc charts are also posted at the end of the shelves in the Government Information Collection for easy reference if you would like to browse the collection. Of course, there is also the option of searching the online library catalog for Government Documents, and staff at the Government Information desk are happy to help you locate the documents you need. Government Information is located in the southwest corner on the fourth floor of Alkek Library.

Helpful links:

FDLP.GOV
GOVINFO.GOV

by Ceniza Wier, Collections, Merchandising & Expanded Services Asst.

Get Equipped: Equipment Checkout at the Library
Come See Sandra Cisneros: *A House of Her Own*

**Internationally acclaimed author** Sandra Cisneros is the subject of a major new exhibition at the Wittliff Collections that will be on display through July 1, 2017.

The Cisneros Papers, more than 300 file boxes in all, document the life and work of this writer best known for her classic, *The House on Mango Street*, which has sold more than six million copies and inspired generations of readers.

*Sandra Cisneros: A House of Her Own* highlights key artifacts from the Cisneros archive: manuscripts, correspondence, photographs, original drawings, publicity materials, Cisneros’s portable typewriter, and her diaries and journals where many of the earliest incarnations of her stories and poems can be found.

On Sunday, April 30 the Wittliff Collections hosted a special public event with Sandra Cisneros that attracted an overflow crowd of an estimated 500 to hear her speak, read from her work, answer questions and sign her books.

More info at: TheWittliffCollections.txstate.edu

by Mark Willenborg, Marketing and Promotions Coordinator for The Wittliff Collections

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**Texas State University History**

**Texas State University Campus in Times of War**

Since Texas State University’s beginning in 1903, the university and its students have experienced big changes, especially during times of war. A newly installed exhibit in the University Archives’ display case explores the impact of war on campus and student life. The following story of the San Marcos Ten, whose actions had historic legal ramifications, represents just one of many shared in this new physical exhibit.

Similar to other American college students in the late 1960s, a group of Bobcats launched a number of nonviolent demonstrations calling for the end of the Vietnam War. Texas State’s most famous anti-Vietnam protest took place on the morning of November 13, 1969, when about 50 people gathered between Evans Hall and the Fine Arts Building (now Taylor-Murphy Hall) to stage a peaceful demonstration. The protestors, sitting in grass near the Fighting Stallions statue, wore black cloth strips around their arms and carried signs with phrases such as “It’s Their War, Bring Our GI’s Home.” At around 10:35 a.m., Dean of Ten’s rights to free speech and peaceable assembly, U.S. District Judge Jack Roberts ruled in favor of the university and determined that the school had the right to regulate demonstrations. This standing, which remains in effect today, made legal history and set an important legal precedent for how other colleges and universities deal with student demonstrations on their own campuses.

The story of the San Marcos Ten offers one example of how Texas State and its students have responded to the hardships of war. Next time you’re on the fifth floor, swing by the University Archives and explore other accounts of war-time campus life from eras past.

Visit the University Archives page to learn more about available resources, research assistance, exhibits and outreach activities.

by Lindsey D. Waldenberg, Public History graduate student, University Archives graduate assistant