Bienvenue!

Ellender Memorial Library is the academic support center for Nicholls State University, connecting our community of students, faculty, and administrators. Why? Because you do come to your Library, individually and in groups in increasing numbers to study, do research and, on occasion, take a break from the college day!

We have expanded study areas including leisure, group, and quiet-only:

- Entrance Foyer: relaxed study area for groups or individuals.
- First Floor: casual single and group study areas beyond the main stairwell now with vending machines!
- Main Second Floor: casual reading and studying in the front, quieter group study in the middle and back of the library, including group study rooms and single-student study carrels.

Your Library provides an hospitable space where a wide range of learning, social networking, community service, and relaxation can and do readily occur in a suitable assortment of appropriately equipped and properly furnished areas and rooms. And your Library is open when other campus facilities are not!

Need books, articles, and other information resources for your daily assignment or research paper? Your Library has them for you in print, online, and microform formats. Need instruction on how to access, assess and use those resources? Your Library has a Research Librarian to help you. Need a leisure book for fun reading? Your Library has those too.

For your benefit, your Library is in the midst of reclassifying its print and online collection from the Dewey Decimal System (common in community college, school and public libraries) to the research-friendly Library of Congress Classification System (common in university libraries) … that’s why some shelves are full, some empty, and more-and-more are just right.

Robert Bremer, Director of Your Nicholls Library
New Employees

Three’s Company

Ellender Memorial Library welcomed three new employees this year. The new additions to the faculty and staff have diverse backgrounds and skills, which will further improve the library’s service to the university.

John Bourgeois was born on a military base in West Germany but has roots in Louisiana; Holly Beach, LA is his hometown. He is the latest addition to the faculty of Research Librarians/Assistant Professors. As a Reference and Liaison Librarian, Bourgeois can be found on the second floor at the Information desk or in his office. His duties include reference, bibliographic instruction, liaising, collection development, and conducting tours. Bourgeois earned a B.A. in English and a B.S. in Biological Sciences from Louisiana Tech University, a Masters of Public Health in Epidemiology from Tulane’s School of Public Health & Tropical Medicine, and a M.L.I.S. (Library Specialization) from LSU School of Library & Information Sciences. Before joining the Nicholls family, he was a research coordinator at Tulane’s School of Public Health & Tropical Medicine as well as a substitute teacher.

Subjects: Allied health, computer science, geomatics, information systems, mathematics, nursing, petroleum and manufacturing

Megan Myers, a native of Morgan City, Louisiana, graduated from Berwick High school and earned a Bachelor’s of General Studies (B.G.S.) from Nicholls. While pursuing her undergraduate degree, Myers earned several minors including music, business administration, and humanities. She has joined the Technical Services staff located on the first floor of the library. As a Library Specialist in the Cataloging department, her duties are rarely seen by patrons but are an integral part of the library’s work flow: importing and editing bibliographic records in the online catalog, printing labels, processing items for circulation, and withdrawing/updating holdings.

Sarah Simms calls Spring, Texas, her hometown, but before joining the faculty at Nicholls, she lived and worked in a magical land far from the southern twang of Texas. In New York City, Simms worked at a rare book store cataloging and selling rare books. While in New York, she also worked at an historical photography archive. She received her B.A. from Boston University and M.S.L.I.S. from Long Island University. At Ellender Library, Simms is a Research Librarian/Assistant Professor whose duties include reference, collection development, library instruction, and tours. Many students and faculty first got a taste of Simms at this year’s Welcome Back Day where she showed off her banana dancing skills. Charming her way around the second floor, she is either in her office near the study rooms or at the Information desk.

Subjects: Accounting, business administration, culinary, dietetics, economics and finance, foreign languages, management and marketing, maritime management

Bookshelf

This semester Ellender Memorial Library and Thibodaux Branch Library partnered to receive a grant to host the National Endowment for the Humanities Bridging Cultures Bookshelf: Muslim Journeys. With the grant, the library received 25 books, 3 films, and a 1 year subscription to Oxford Islamic Studies Online. Also, two presentations were held on campus. Dr. Adeline Masquelier presented “Women, Islam, Family, & Agency in West Africa,” and Dr. Kurt Stiegler presented “Forging Pakistan: Iqbal, Jinnah, & Muslim National Identity.” The collection is intended to provide the public with diverse resources to explore the following themes in Muslim culture: connected histories, literary reflections, pathways of faith, points of view, and American stories. Ellender librarian Hayley Johnson spearheaded the grant application with assistance from librarian Van Viator. Librarian Anke Tonn organized the programing for the presentations, and Johnson assembled a display on the first floor of the Ellender Library. Examples of some of the titles are Prince Among Slaves by Terry Allford, Dreams of Trespass by Fatima Mernissi, and In an Antique Land by Amitav Ghosh. Currently, the collection is housed separately from the regular stacks on the second floor near the Information Desk. For more titles, check out the entire collection or the Muslim Journeys website: www.bridgingcultures.neh.gov/muslimjourneys.

Library Welcomes New President

We here at the Library would like to take the opportunity to welcome our incoming President, Dr. Bruce T. Murphy! Above is our welcome banner, which can be found on the second floor of the library.
Having trouble coming up with a research topic, or even knowing where to start? We have a new reference database called Literati that is sure to help! Within this database are 10,000 topic pages alone with full text reference articles that you can cite in your papers. Apart from the full reference articles, there are definitions, biographies, quotations, crossword solver, holidays and festivals, and pronunciations! Literati also shows you other resources like books, journals, and databases available in our library on your topic!

Our favorite thing that Literati offers is called Mind Map (pictured). Mind map is a visual search tool that displays the connection between Literati’s search results, which helps you quickly find information when you don’t know what you’re looking for, when

Each word in the resulting map will represent one full-text ebook entry from Literati’s ebooks. You can rollover any word in the map to get a pop-up box that will tell you what particular ebook entry that node represents. You can click through to the full entry, which will open in a separate browser window.

You can click on any term in the map and it will re-center the search around that node, with new associated words popping up.

In the picture to the right, you can see that we chose “Cajun” as our search term. The nodes surrounding it are all related to that in some way. So if you knew a broad term that you wanted to start your research with, but didn’t know where to go from there, the Mind Map is a great tool.

To find Literati, you will need to go the library’s webpage, click on the Database link, and it will be listed alphabetically under the letter L. Quick tutorials are available through Literati, but don’t forget that the librarians will be happy to help!
The Archives & Special Collections Department at Ellender Library has created an oral history collection featuring veterans residing in this region. The collection includes videotaped interviews, biographies, photographs, and documents related to their military experience. To view the collection, visit the LOUISiana Digital Library website.

Collection link: http://louisdl.louislibraries.org/index.php?name=Veterans%20of%20Southeast%20Louisiana

Managing Editor: Sarah Simms  Editor: Brandy Burbante. Photographs by editors and editorial staff members unless otherwise noted. The statements and opinions included in these pages are those of the newsletter staff only and not those of Nicholls State University or the University of Louisiana System.