Library Services & Operations for Remote Access

The SLU Libraries are committed to providing uninterrupted access to the robust digital services and content you’ve come to expect. Online materials including databases, e-journals, and e-books remain accessible and our librarians and library staff will remain available for service via email, chat, and other virtual mediums. Due dates on SLU print materials have been extended until the end of the semester. We created, and continue to update, a guide for remote library resources and services, along with a list of FAQs that will help answer additional questions from both students and faculty.

Currently, Pius XII Memorial Library and the Medical Center Library remain open but it has restricted access to only the SLU Community (anyone with a SLU ID). However, as the situation warrants, hours may be further reduced and library services will be provided with minimal staff. Please practice social distancing while in the Library, for the safety of yourself, the library staff, and all SLU community members. If the libraries do close, our remote services will remain fully operational.

See the Libraries web site: http://lib.slu.edu/

Research Services for Students & Faculty

SLU Librarians can help you navigate our vast library on online resources for your research and coursework. Our chat service remains available, and is the fastest way to get assistance. It will continue to be staffed by SLU librarians during the day, and by contract librarians from around the country overnight and on the weekends. SLU librarians will continue to provide research and instruction services remotely. You can contact the research librarian for your department directly through email. They are prepared to meet with students and faculty via phone, Zoom, and/or Skype.

Library Instruction

Research & Instruction Librarians are still available to incorporate library instruction into your courses, even if you had not previously planned to do so. This can be in the form of joining a synchronous session of your class via Zoom, Skype, etc., or creating a Panopto video lecture for students to view asynchronously. Librarians may also create research guides specifically for your course and/or share relevant guides and video tutorials that have already been created.

Access to Course Materials

If there are physical course materials your students no longer have access to, please submit a purchase request or email your subject librarian, and we will attempt to license an e-book or
streaming video to meet your needs. If we are unable to license the material needed, we will suggest submitting a request to add it to eReserves or other alternate access options, such as Open Library. Research Librarians can also provide ideas for materials we already license that may meet your instructional needs, and can provide you with a permanent URL for any licensed material that will give students direct access from off campus.

Interlibrary Loan Services

The Interlibrary Loan Department of Pius XII Memorial Library will continue to provide service to our SLU faculty, staff, and students while classes are no longer in person or if the physical library closes.

- For loans or copies from non-digitized items, we are constantly monitoring lists which note which libraries remain open during this public health crisis.
- While open, we will provide scans of chapters and articles from any hardcopies within Pius or Searls Hall.

If we are required to work remotely, we will still be able to provide pdfs for our patrons.

- We can access our digital collection of books and journals.
- Through publishers’ webpages, we can make immediate purchases of articles, journal issues, and chapters of many recent publications.
- Our ILLiad program also has an application for making purchases that arrive within 2 hours.
- As many libraries in the county are closing or limiting services, we will reach out to international libraries to provide pdfs. We already have relationships with libraries in Germany, the Netherlands, Spain, the United Kingdom and Korea, to name a few. Most of these libraries respond within 24 hours.
- We also have established relationships with organizations throughout the world to obtain copies of hard to find items.
- Years of experience has led to the ability to use foreign resources, which allow for digital copies or purchases.

Print Materials for Research

While the Pius Library building remains open, students and faculty in the area can still use the materials. Please practice social distancing while in the Library, for the safety of yourself, the library staff, and all SLU community members.

Please do not return any checked-out library materials. Keep them with you until further notice. Due dates will be adjusted accordingly.