Facilities and Services

The University of Delaware Library includes the Morris Library, where the main collection is housed, two branch libraries located in Newark—the Chemistry Library and the Physics Library and a third library, the Marine Studies Library in Lewes, Delaware. The University of Delaware Library is actually two libraries—the legacy print Library and the electronic Library that uses cutting-edge technology.

The collections of the Library parallel the University's academic interests and support all disciplines. Books, E-books, databases, periodicals, E-journals, E-newspapers, microforms, government publications, maps, manuscripts, media, software and Internet access provide a major academic resource for the University of Delaware, the surrounding community, the State of Delaware and the nation.

The Library is a depository library for U.S. government publications, a patent depository for U.S. patents and a repository for State of Delaware publications. Library staff members provide a wide range of services including reference assistance, circulation, interlibrary loan, instructional programs, assistance to users with disabilities and assistance to faculty, staff and students in the Student Multimedia Design Center.

The Morris Library seats over 2,500 persons. The Library is a member of the Association of Research Libraries, the Center for Research Libraries, CIRLA (the Chesapeake Information and Research Library Alliance), the Digital Library Federation, the HathiTrust, LYRASIS, Portico, the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, the Center for Intellectual Property and the OCLC (the Online Computer Library Center), including the OCLC Research Library Partnership.

For Library hours, one may call 302-831-BOOK or check the Library web at [www.udel.edu/library].

Size of Collections (2012/2013)

- Books and bound periodicals: over 2,800,000
- E-books (not a subset of above): over 410,000
- Electronic and print journals including newspapers to which the Library provides access: over 42,000
- --E-journals and E-newspapers (subset of above): over 37,000
- Databases (titles in Databases list): over 370
- Research Guides to the Internet: over 220
- Linear feet of manuscripts and archives: over 8,800
- Microforms: over 3,400,000
- Other resources (DVDs, maps, etc.): over 490,000

Use Statistics (2012/2013)

- Individuals entering the Morris Library: over 790,000
- Virtual visits on Library web: over 1,500,000
- Page Views on Library web: over 3,500,000
- Items checked out: over 330,000
- Items used in a Library building: over 87,000
- User education provided to individuals: over 10,000

Source: University of Delaware Library
Electronic Library Resources

The University of Delaware Library provides online electronic access to networked and digital information including thousands of electronic journals; journal article references and abstracts; full-text electronic articles; a full-text encyclopedia; government information; maps and many other items. Databases provide access to more than 370 networked databases for University of Delaware faculty, students and staff. The Library web is accessible 24/7 at [www.udel.edu/library].

DELCAT is the University of Delaware Library online catalog and contains information about the library collection and also provides links to electronic journals and other resources. DELCAT may be accessed from anywhere in the world via the web. A new and extremely innovative, cloud-based DELCAT will be implemented on July 1, 2014. It will be the first installation of this nature in a research library in the world.

The Library web serves as a gateway research tool and provides gateway access to electronic resources on the web including electronic access to resources that are locally licensed for University of Delaware faculty, students and staff only. The Library web is also available from the University of Delaware web [www.udel.edu].

The University of Delaware Library was one of the first libraries in the nation to implement WorldCat Local, the world’s largest network of library-based content and services. WorldCat Local encompasses the holdings of over 72,000 libraries across the world, including the University of Delaware Library. In a single search, users can easily identify a broad array of high-quality research materials. With a simple click, users can change the default interface to German, Spanish, French, Dutch or Chinese. WorldCat Local has been enthusiastically received by students.

The Morris Library provides seating for more than 2,500 persons; wireless access in most areas; special purpose space for computer-based systems; more than 245 computer workstations accessible to users; more than 200 laptop connections for University of Delaware users to connect personal laptops (including all graduate student carrels); the Student Multimedia Design Center; a current periodical reading room; self-service photocopiers; microform reader/printers including a digital microform workstation; a large quiet reading room; small research studies for which faculty may request use; a GIS workstation; special equipment and areas to assist users with disabilities; a media area and viewing room; small group study rooms for student use; a handsome Special Collections area including an exhibition gallery and a reading room with a controlled environmental system for rare materials; and many other areas and services.

Source: University of Delaware Library