

Library Virtual Tour

Fall 2009

Prescott Memorial Library
Louisiana Tech University

Library Entrance

The university library is housed on the first nine floors of Wyly Tower. The library contains many print resources such as books, journals, and government documents. This virtual tour covers various sections within the library according to their locations and the type of services they provide.

The entrance to the library is on the right side of Wyly Tower facing the University quadrangle. You enter on the 2nd or Main Floor.

Lobby Elevators

Main Floor

Three elevators and two stairways are on the left hand side as you enter the building. When working, these elevators take you to all but the 1st floor of this building!

Located next to the first elevator, there is a Directory board listing what is located on each floor. It is a handy source of information.

Circulation Desk

Main Floor

The Circulation Desk is on the right side as you enter the doors.

This is where you can:

- Check out & renew materials
- Check out items that your professor has placed on reserve for the entire class
- Pay overdue fines
- Get keys to a Study Room or Typewriter Room

You need your current Tech ID Card for every item of business at the Circulation Desk. Don't forget it!

Reference Desk

Main Floor

The Reference Desk is facing the front door of the library as you enter it. It is a great place to go if you need research help about:

- Choosing resources for a topic
- Beginning your search, or
- Locating materials

Reference Librarians are available at the desk to assist you during most of the library's operating hours. Please don't hesitate to ask for help!

Reference Computers

Main Floor

The Reference Computer Area has 35 computers to assist you in your online research. They are located directly behind the Reference Desk.

Two laser printers allow you to print your research articles at no charge to you. The Student Technology Fee assessment covers the cost.

Reference Books

Main Floor

The Reference Book collection is located on index tables and shelves behind the Reference Desk and Computer areas. These books are handy for quick and vital information. They are frequently used, so they cannot be checked out. Some common books in this area include: literary criticisms, encyclopedias, dictionaries, almanacs & statistical information.

Government Documents

Main Floor

Some Government Documents are located on the far right end of the 2nd (Main) floor. With over 2.4 million documents in our collection, they offer a wide variety of researchable topics.

Government Documents on the Main floor include: Louisiana Documents, Federal Documents on microfiche, and a large Map collection.

Government Documents

1st Floor Basement

On the main floor, there is a sign pointing to the downstairs steps that lead to our collection of Federal Documents in print. These documents are shelved by SuDoc call numbers rather than LC call numbers like the rest of the Library collection.

While most documents can be checked out, many are now offered electronically and they are accessible from a URL link in the Library Catalog.

Electronic Classroom

1st Floor Basement

An Electronic Classroom with 25 desktop computers is located on the 1st Floor. It is designed to offer students “hands-on” practice when preparing for class-assigned research.

This is not an open access lab but must be reserved in advance. The class instructor should contact the Liaison Librarian assigned to their college to arrange for an instruction session.

Periodicals Information

3rd Floor

The 3rd floor of the library houses the print and microfilm collection of periodicals which include scholarly journals, popular magazines, and newspapers.

An Information Desk is near the elevators to assist you in finding the materials you need. To the right of the Information Desk is a Leisure Reading area where you can relax and browse the current popular magazines, newspapers or the paperback fiction collection.

Periodicals Collection

3rd Floor

Print indexes to major newspapers and metal cabinets of microfilmed periodicals are located behind the Information Desk.

After you pass these, there are many shelves of bound periodicals that look like books. They are arranged by LC call numbers and are bound together to preserve and protect them for student use in years to come.

Periodicals are not available for check out, so nearby copiers are available for your convenience. Copies are 10¢ a page.

Forestry Library

3rd Floor

To the left of the elevators on the 3rd floor is the Hardner Forestry Library which houses a special collection of forestry-specific print books and journals.

If you look closely at the walls, you'll notice varying strips of hardwoods found in this area of the south.

Near the entrance of this library, special machines can enable you to view microfilm articles. Copies can be printed for 10¢ a page.

Special Collections

4th Floor

The 4th floor houses the University's Special Collections, Manuscripts and Archives, a rich repository of primary research materials which are available to all qualified scholars, students, and the public.

This floor is open from 8:00-4:30 Monday – Friday and remains locked after these hours.

Book Collection

5th-9th Floors

When you step off the elevators or stairways on floors 5 -9, you'll see rows and rows of book shelves containing books of all shapes and sizes.

Books are alphabetically arranged by Library of Congress (LC) call numbers. They begin at the far left hand corner and proceed clockwise around the floor. (*Notice the accompanying floorplan for the direction of the flow.*)

Study Areas

5th-9th Floors

The library has many study rooms, study carrels and large tables for your convenience.

You can check out a key to a study room to do group work, but you need at least 3 students to leave their Tech IDs at the Circulation Desk. You cannot reserve a room . . .

First come, first served!

Please note that the 5th floor is a QUIET FLOOR, so you cannot gather with a group around a table to talk.