

Top 10 questions asked by new students... with answers!

1. When is the library open?

Monday -Thursday: 8:00 a.m. to midnight
Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 2:00 p.m. to midnight

Our hours may vary between terms, during interim and spring break, and on holidays.

2. I need help with my research – who can I call?

Four librarians at BSC specialize in supporting you in your research:

◆ Pam Sawallis ◆ Steve Laughlin ◆ Stacey Thornberry ◆ Guy Hubbs ◆

During the school year, at least one of us is available to assist you until 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, and 5 p.m. on Friday.

You can... **call** us at 205-226-4740 or 205-226-4766

email us at libref@bsc.edu

chat with us from the library website at <http://library.bsc.edu>

3. How can I find and check out books from the library?

Use the BSC Library Catalog, which is available from the library webpage, to locate books. You can search for any item in the library's physical collections (as well as many e-books) by author, title, subject, keyword or combinations of these. Books in the BSC library are arranged by the Library of Congress (LC) classification system. Most of the circulating books are on the 2nd floor of the library and can be checked out for 21 days, with renewal possible if no one else has requested the book. Simply present your BSC ID card at the circulation desk to check out materials. If you have questions, contact Eric Kennedy or Craig Stewart in the circulation department at 205-226-4740 or libcirc@bsc.edu

4. What other sorts of materials are in the library?

In addition to books, the library has periodicals (journals and magazines), newspapers, government documents, archival materials, DVDs, CDs, videotapes, and vinyl recordings (as well as the equipment to use them!). All of these are listed in the Library Catalog. We also offer access to many full-text databases.

5. What databases does the library have?

The library subscribes to more than 135 online databases which provide access to a wide variety of publications, including journals, magazines, newspapers and e-books. Among them are *Academic Search Premier*, *Ebrary* and *Ebsco Ebooks*, *LexisNexis Academic*, *ScienceDirect*, *JStor*, *Project Muse*, *ACS (American Chemical Society) Publications*, *PsycInfo*, and *Oxford Reference Online*. A full listing can be found on the Library's web

site under “Databases.” There is also a list of databases by subject area and a link to a Central Search tool that lets you search across multiple databases.

6. Can I get to these databases from off campus?

Yes, you can! Simply log in with the username and password you use to access your BSC e-mail account.

7. What if the BSC library doesn't have what I need?

You can use our interlibrary loan service to request any book or article you are unable to obtain locally. Usually this service is free, but occasionally the lending library may charge a fee (you will be notified in advance if this is the case). Response time on most interlibrary loan requests is 2 to 6 days; it may take longer for books that are not widely available to come in. Forms for interlibrary loan requests are available on the library webpage under “Request Forms” and may be submitted electronically. As a BSC student, you can also visit and check out materials from the libraries at UAB, Samford University, Miles College, Jefferson State Community College, and the University of Montevallo – and are eligible for a library card at Birmingham Public Library.

8. What kind of access to computers and the Internet does the library provide?

There are 40 computer workstations in the Library for public use, each one with access to a printer. In addition, the library houses an electronic classroom with 18 workstations, which is open to all BSC students from 4:45 to 11:45 p.m. There are also 4 scanners, 3 photocopy machines, and a color printer for student use. Wireless access is available throughout the building – so you can bring your own laptop and log onto the network.

9. Are there rooms where I can study?

As a matter of fact, there are. The library has several rooms you can reserve for school-related activities (such as group study sessions, video screenings, or club meetings) by calling 205-226-4740. Other seminar rooms are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. There are also a number of small study carrels on the ground floor; a few of these are checked out to faculty or students working on long-term projects, but the rest are waiting for you to walk in, sit down, and study.

10. Where can I get more information about library resources?

The library website, available at <http://library.bsc.edu>, is your gateway to information about the library and the many resources available to you. We invite you to friend us on [Facebook](#), follow our [blog](#), and make use of the resource guides we have prepared for your classes (at <http://libguides.bsc.edu>). You are always welcome to stop by the library to check out the “new books” shelf, browse the popular SGA video collection, or get a head start on your research assignments. Please feel free to ask questions at any time. You are the reason we are here!

