

The Library

The mission of the Hope College Library is to serve as a vibrant center of intellectual and cultural life at Hope College by assuming a significant educational role in a college community committed to excellence in learning and teaching.

Staff

In order to meet its mission, the library maintains a staff who select and manage a collection that supports the curriculum of the College, catalog the materials added to the collection, assist users in finding information and materials to meet their needs, and instruct students in the use of the library's many resources.

Collection

The library collects and maintains quality books, serials, periodicals, electronic resources, audio-visual materials, and other resources to support the curricular, scholarly, and informational needs of the College. Recreational reading materials are also available in the Browsing Collection. The library welcomes suggestions from faculty, staff, and students of possible additions to the collection.

Services

The library provides a variety of services including instruction in the use of the library, circulation (including reserve materials), reference, interlibrary borrowing, and access to indexes, abstracts, and documents. The library maintains an integrated automated system with a catalog accessible from anywhere on campus and off-campus through the Internet.

Instruction

The library faculty and staff work in partnership with the classroom faculty to instruct students in the use of the library so that they may make effective and efficient use of the resources available.

Facilities

The main collection and library services are housed in the Van Wylen Library, located on College Avenue between 10th Street and Graves Place. The Music Library contains scores, audio and video recordings, criticism, biography, literature, and reference works all relating to music. The music library is furnished with playback equipment for the various recordings housed there.

Other Libraries

Members of the Hope College community have access to the collections of the Beardslee Library at Western Seminary through the library's on-line catalog. Circulating materials at Beardslee may be borrowed by Hope students, staff and faculty. The Herrick Public Library, located just a few blocks from campus is also available for use by staff and faculty of the College.

Tech Lab

The library provides instruction and assistance in the use of a variety of computer applications and other technologies. Help is available to everyone on campus for many software programs. Please check with the library for a listing of applicable software programs.