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The Subject Librarian Newsletter, Communication, Spring 2016

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NSC NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2016



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TEXTBOOK AFFORDABILITY has moved to the forefront as an issue in higher education, especially in Florida. A few weeks ago, the state legislature enacted several amendments to existing laws concerning textbook affordability. Some of the more salient features of the legislation are:

- Requiring public postsecondary institutions to report, by semester, the cost variance among sections and length of time textbooks and other materials are in use for all general education (GEP) courses. (This provision expires July 1, 2018.)
- Requiring posting of textbooks and instructional materials at least 45 days before the first day of class, currently 30 days, on the college or university website.

The Libraries have created a research guide, "Textbooks, Textbook Alternatives & Course Readings from Library Resources," to assist both faculty and students with alternatives to full-price textbooks. For example, the Libraries offer thousands of full-text online books that can be used in the classroom or by individual students to supplement class readings. For more information, see <<http://guides.ucf.edu/textbooks>>.

Kanopy Streaming Video Collection

The Libraries are now participating in the Kanopy on-demand streaming video service for educational institutions. This service provides access to more than 26,000 films each year, including award-winning documentaries, educational films, and theatrical releases from some 800 producers such as Criterion, PBS, Documentary Educational Resources, New Day Films, Media Education, California Newsreel, and others. These videos can be viewed on any mobile device, but they cannot be downloaded and viewed offline. All titles in the collection are listed in the UCF Libraries' catalog. For more information about Kanopy, go to <<http://guides.ucf.edu/streaming/kanopy>>.

Fast Facts

For academic year 2014-2015, the Libraries' "Ask Us" service answered a total of 9,201 queries. Of that total 52% (4,825) were received and answered through IM, followed by 23% (2,162) received and answered by telephone.

WITH OSC, HELP WITH YOUR RESEARCH JOURNEY IS HERE

The UCF Libraries' Office of Scholarly Communication (OSC) provides support for researchers at UCF. Along every step of the way, services are offered to facilitate your research plan, project, publication, and digital scholarship efforts.

Plan

Overwhelmed by your literature review? Meet with a librarian for in-depth assistance related to locating relevant materials and managing your citations. If you have never tried RefWorks or EndNote, let us show you their propensity for disentangling the research process.

Managing your citations is one thing, but managing your data is quite another. You may have funding or grant requirements to make your data openly accessible, or you may just want to keep your data safe and organized. Before you start accumulating data, let us help you consider options that will save you time and minimize stress throughout the research planning process.

We can show you even more resources to help expedite your plan, including a database to find funding opportunities, information regarding regulatory guidelines, and guidance to start planning grants.

Project

As you work on your project, we can help you stay in control of your data set with appropriate metadata. From choosing metadata standards to finding an appropriate repository, we can help guide the way. Not sure what metadata means in this situation? We can help with that as well.

We can also point you in the right direction for help with computing research data, meeting standards of conduct, and managing grants. See more at our Project Cycle page.

Publication

Do you know your rights as an author? You are able to reproduce your work, distribute your work, and publicly display or perform your work. You can also give away these rights, and this commonly happens in publication agreements. To retain rights, we can show you how to create an addendum to include with your publisher's agreement.

Unsure where to publish your work? If you are in favor of retaining more rights as an author, such as being able to self-archive your work, then think about choosing a publisher with an open access option. We can show you tools for locating a reputable journal publisher.

Digital Scholarship

Once your work is published, let us help you explore ways to preserve and disseminate your publication. We offer strategies for discovery to help you promote your work. To see the impact of your research, we offer citation metrics guides and tools.

For additional information or to set up an appointment, contact the Scholarly Communication Librarian, Sarah Norris, at <Sarah.Norris@ucf.edu>.

LEARN A LANGUAGE IN YOUR UNDERWEAR USING MANGO

Mango Languages, a leading language and culture learning resource, is now available online 24/7 via the UCF Libraries.

The Mango program teaches actual conversation skills for more than 70 foreign languages and English as a second language. It also includes thematic specialty courses, among them medical Spanish, endangered languages (Yiddish, Tuvan), Pirate ("Arrr, matey!"), and the Mango Premiere program for teaching language through full-length international films.

First-time users should create a profile to track progress. Faculty interested in creating student learning groups in Mango should contact the appropriate subject librarian for Instructor access.

The Mango database can be found listed alphabetically on the Libraries' database page: <<http://guides.ucf.edu/databases>>.