

Library

The primary aim of the library is to provide information literacy instruction (both in person and online) and a balanced collection of materials to support the curriculum.

Library Collections

Library materials are acquired to serve these purposes:

- To be used by students in connection with courses
- To support instructors in preparing for teaching their courses
- To support college staff in professional duties
- To promote and support library users in general intellectual and cultural development, as well as to provide leisure reading, viewing, and listening

Librarians and discipline faculty share responsibility for selecting materials, in an appropriate format, for the library collection. As subject experts, discipline faculty should have significant input in the selection and examination of library materials within their subject areas. The librarians are responsible for maintaining a balance between various subject areas and between standard and current works.

The selection and evaluation of materials in a wide variety of formats will be based on curricular demands, recommendations of current professional review sources, and suggestions from members of the college community. Student requests are strongly encouraged, as they help to enrich and diversify the collection.

Gifts of library materials are welcome but are accepted with the understanding that only those meeting the needs of the library and the guidelines for selection will be added to the collection. Typically, gifts not retained are given away. The library assumes no responsibility for appraisal or valuation of gift items.

Library Exhibits and Displays

Library exhibits serve these purposes:

- To increase interest in library materials and their use
- To provide supplemental library opportunities for intellectual and aesthetic discovery
- To reflect the diversity of our curriculum and our community

The library is mainly responsible for curating its exhibits and displays, but will also consider requests to provide temporary/rotating space for academic departments, student groups recognized by the college, individual staff, faculty, administrators, and students, and community members or organizations that wish to sponsor an exhibit or display.

Challenges to Library Materials or Exhibits

Materials and exhibits representing various viewpoints and supporting academic freedom are included in the library as a matter of routine. If the suitability of a particular material or exhibit is questioned, the specific objections should be submitted in writing to the dean, Instructional Services. The dean and Library department chair will review the submission and if the issue remains unresolved, the matter will be referred to the Academic Affairs Committee for review. The Academic Affairs Committee will forward their recommendation for action to the Academic Senate, who will in turn advise the superintendent/president on the disposition of the complaint. The Academic Senate will notify the complainant in writing of their decision.

Equitable Access and Borrowing

The library will provide equitable access to library resources and services to all students, regardless of location, including online learners.

Faculty, staff, enrolled students, and those with emeritus/Gold Circle status may access and borrow materials with approved identification. Reciprocal borrowing privileges of physical library materials are available for the students of locally affiliated institutions with current identification from their home institutions. Area residents, including high school students, may borrow physical library materials with approved identification and the creation of a library account.

The MiraCosta College Library affirms the American Library Association Bill of Rights.

Academic Support and Tutoring Services

The college offers multiple instructional support services to students enrolled in academic courses. These include computer labs, a Language Resource Center, a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Learning Center, a Tutoring and Academic Support Center, and a Writing Center.

The MiraCosta College website contains information on their locations, services, and hours of operation.