



# The Link

*Rentschler Library Faculty Newsletter. Fall 2014*

engage | explore | inform | innovate | seek | discover | inspire | preserve | create | support | communicate | imagine | transform

## Welcome!

Welcome to (or back to) Miami University Hamilton! The library staff is very excited about this new school year and looking forward to working with all of you. For those of you who may not know, "The Link" is the library's newsletter for faculty and staff. Each edition will be a little different, but you will always find information about the library and other helpful information about research and college students. We are here to help you as you teach and help your students learn. On the pages that follow, you will read about ways that we can assist you. If you have any questions at all, or would like to use any of the services we offer, please feel free to contact us.

Helpful library webpages:

### Information for Faculty

[www.ham.miamioh.edu/library/faculty](http://www.ham.miamioh.edu/library/faculty)

### Library Staff Contact Information

[www.ham.miamioh.edu/library/staff](http://www.ham.miamioh.edu/library/staff)

### Request Instruction

[www.ham.miamioh.edu/library/facultyinstruction](http://www.ham.miamioh.edu/library/facultyinstruction)

### Subject Liaison Info

[www.ham.miamioh.edu/library/liaison](http://www.ham.miamioh.edu/library/liaison)

### Reserves Information and Form

[www.ham.miamioh.edu/library/facultyreserves](http://www.ham.miamioh.edu/library/facultyreserves)

## Embedded Librarian

Are you teaching a hybrid or online course and assigning a research-based assignment? We can still provide library instruction for your students! Are you teaching a face-to-face class and using Niihka for course resources? We can provide resources for your students in your Niihka site as well! We will create a custom Niihka page that can be added to your course site that will include links to assignment-appropriate resources, give students tips and pointers on how to conduct research in those resources, provide students with contact information in case they need further assistance, and we can even add in some video tutorials. If you are teaching a hybrid course, the Niihka page works really well in conjunction with a face-to-face library instruction session, but it is not necessary.

If you have questions or would like to know more about how this would work in your class, or if you would like for us to set up a Niihka page for your course, please contact **Carrie Girton** at [girtonc@miamioh.edu](mailto:girtonc@miamioh.edu) or **785-3180**.

## Ask Us About . . .

### Library Instruction

- Research Assignments
- Information Literacy
- Search Strategies

### Class Reserves

- Library or Personal Copy

### Research Resources

- Extended Borrowing Times
- Access to Databases
- Interlibrary Loan Services

### Public Equipment

- Color Printer & Copier
- Scanner
- Microform Machines
- Computers with extensive software

### Librarian Liaisons

- Support Subject Areas
- Guides & Bibliographies



## Tired of only seeing websites on Works Cited pages? We can help!

Are you requiring a research assignment and want your students to use the best possible sources? It's not too late to schedule library instruction! We will tailor our presentation directly to your students' needs and provide time for hands-on experience searching library databases. Some of the things we cover include formulating search strategies, evaluating sources, and using the library's electronic resources. Our instruction lab seats 25 students, but we can offer alternatives for large classes. Requests must be made at least one week in advance so that we can prepare the best possible learning experience; sessions are subject to lab and librarian availability.

You can request an instruction session by filling out our online form:

[www.ham.miamioh.edu/library/facultyinstruction](http://www.ham.miamioh.edu/library/facultyinstruction)

or by contacting **Mark Shores** at [shoresml@miamioh.edu](mailto:shoresml@miamioh.edu) or **785-3203**.

"The library was the place I went to find out what there was to know. It was absolutely essential."  
—Zadie Smith

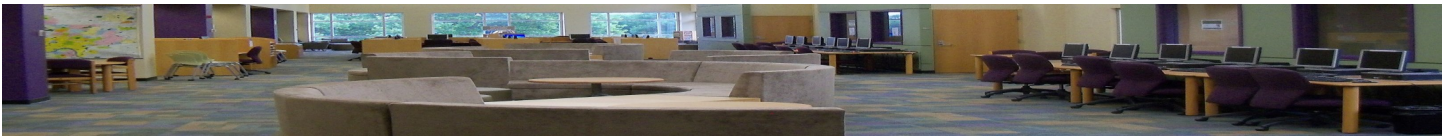
[www.brainyquote.com](http://www.brainyquote.com)

## Streaming Video

Did you know that Rentschler Library can convert video content from DVD or VHS format to an online streaming format so that students can view it at any time and from any place they have an internet connection? This Video on Demand (VOD) service offers faculty a way to assign video viewing outside of class time, allows students to review videos shown during class as they prepare for exams, and gives faculty a means of showing videos in class without visiting the library to checkout and return a hard copy of the title they want to use. Here are some important things you need to know about VOD:

- Rentschler Library has access to over 20,000 movies for streaming. Due to copyright law, **only materials owned by the Miami University Libraries can be converted** for VOD. The library cannot stream instructors' personal copies of films or materials owned by OhioLINK libraries, but not owned by Miami University Libraries.
- The **library requires 7-10 days notice to prepare your materials** for use. This allows us time to request items from MUM or Oxford if necessary, to troubleshoot if there are technical problems with the conversion process, and to fill all requests during peak times of the semester.
- After your content has been converted, the library will send you a link to the digitized version of the material you request. This link can be added to your Niihka course site for students to access the streaming video. In order to remain compliant with copyright law, **all links to VOD content will expire at the end of the current semester**. If you need to use the same title again later, simply contact the library and request a new link.

To get additional information about VOD service or to request a title to be streamed for your class, please contact **Mike Farmer** at [farmermw@miamioh.edu](mailto:farmermw@miamioh.edu) or **785-3001**.



## Subject Liaisons

Subject Liaisons are responsible for making decisions about the library collection, including purchasing and withdrawal, in assigned subject areas. Each professional librarian serves as a liaison to several departments so that faculty have an easily identifiable point of contact within the library. Their role is to stay aware of the collection's strengths and weaknesses so that purchases can be made that support class research, while also balancing the needs of the greater Miami Hamilton curriculum.

How can you help make sure our collection serves your students' research needs? Please give your Subject Liaison a copy of your syllabi and keep them informed of changes in research assignments. You can also make suggestions of titles you would like added to the collection. Together, we can build a stronger collection that contributes to the intellectual and cultural development of the MUH community.

Be sure to check the library's blog for updates, important information, fun facts, and tidbits.  
[rentschlerlibrary.wordpress.com](http://rentschlerlibrary.wordpress.com)



## Course Reserves

### What are Course Reserves?

If you have supplemental resources, required readings outside of your class textbook, or videos that students need to watch, consider placing the items on reserve at Rentschler Library. The instructor determines the circulation time for each item, which can include 2 hour (library use only), 2 hour/overnight, 1 day, or 3 day checkouts. Only your personal copies and Miami University Libraries' copies can be placed on reserve; we are unable to put OhioLINK or materials from other libraries on reserve.

### Can I put items on Reserve for my students to download or photocopy at the library?

The library's equipment cannot be used to download reserve videos or reserve music that is protected by copyright. Instead, DVDs and CDs can be played on the public computers, and reserve videos can also be viewed in the library's dedicated viewing room. Students can use the library's photocopying equipment to reproduce supplemental print materials, like articles and book chapters. However, it is a violation of copyright law to photocopy an entire textbook that is a required class purchase.

### How do I put items on Reserve?

You can stop by the circulation desk at the library and fill out the reserves request form, or you can get the form online at [www.ham.miamioh.edu/library/facultyreserves](http://www.ham.miamioh.edu/library/facultyreserves) and email it to [ellinghl@miamioh.edu](mailto:ellinghl@miamioh.edu). Please make reserve requests at least 7 days prior to when reserve item(s) need to be available to students. For more information, please contact **Hannah Ellinghausen** at [ellinghl@miamioh.edu](mailto:ellinghl@miamioh.edu) or **785-3179**.



## Faculty Survey Results

In Spring 2013 we surveyed MUH faculty to get a feel for what Rentschler Library is doing well and what we can do better. We received 45 total responses from a nice mix of full-time and part-time faculty from different departments. The survey asked about services like course reserves, library instruction, “embedded librarians” in Niihka, as well as what tools faculty found most useful in their own research. One respondent was chosen at random to win an Amazon gift card, and it was English instructor Bob West.

**Course Reserves:** 60% (27 of 45) have used Course Reserves. What about those that don’t? The most common reason faculty gave was that their students were expected to purchase their own course materials.

**Library Instruction:** 78% (35 of 45) have scheduled an instruction session with librarians. The 10 faculty that said they do not schedule instruction most commonly listed lack of time in the course schedule as the main reason.

**Library Research Pages in Niihka:** 53% of respondents (24 of 45) were not aware that Rentschler Librarians can create custom “Library Research” pages in their Niihka course sites. This is one thing we will be trying to remedy in the coming year.

When asked about their own research, MUH faculty predictably ranked Miami University Libraries collections and OhioLINK as #1 and #2 respectively in importance. Interlibrary Loan and subscription databases followed.

If you missed a chance to fill out the survey, please email Rentschler Library staff and let us know what we can do for you.

### What We’re Going to Do:

It’s clear we need to do a better job of reaching out to faculty about all the things we can do, so look for more targeted outreach efforts in the year to come. This will include flyers, email blasts, postings on our social media accounts, and possibly working with the MUH Center for Teaching & Learning.

Thanks so much for taking the time to fill out the survey! Your feedback is greatly appreciated!

## Social Media Accounts



<https://www.facebook.com/Go2Library>



<https://twitter.com/muhlibrary>  
@muhlibrary #muhlibrary



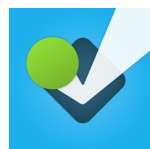
<http://www.pinterest.com/rentschlerlib/>



<https://www.flickr.com/photos/rentschlerlibrary/>



<http://instagram.com/muhlibrary>



<http://4sq.com/ndKwq1>