

Allen Memorial Library

Director

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Hours

During the academic year, the library is open Monday–Thursday 7:45 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., Friday 7:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Sunday 5:00 to 11:00 p.m. Finals week, holiday and summer hours may vary; please phone or check the library website (<http://library.vcsu.edu/vp.htm?p=2105>) to verify open hours.

The university's library is located at the heart of the VCSU campus, between McFarland Hall and the Student Center. While many of the library resources are online and accessible 24 hours a day, other resources and services such as print items, access to printers and other equipment, and in-person reference assistance are available when the library building is open. The library offers building-wide wireless access to the Internet, a student lounge and meeting areas, a classroom on second floor as well as several quiet and small-group study rooms. The Ramos Group Study Room can be reserved online from the library website.

Mission

Allen Memorial Library provides resources, services, and facilities to support student learning and enhance the academic programs of Valley City State University. Allen Memorial Library staff provide classroom instruction and access to scholarly information to promote and facilitate intellectual inquiry, reflective discovery, knowledge creation, the understanding of how information is produced and valued, and ethical participation in communities of learning.

Services

The library's website (<http://library.vcsu.edu>) provides customized access points for a variety of resources including links to the state-wide OPAC via the Aleph interface, state and federal government documents, online ebooks, eReserves, electronic journals, and many other resources. On-campus access to all resources is IP authenticated, while members of the VCSU community from a distance can access the subscription resources through a simple remote authentication process. In order to better serve online information demands, the library has increased the number of online and electronic resources specifically designed for university programs.

Allen Memorial Library offers professional reference services in person from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Additional reference, eReference and reference-on-call services and information literacy opportunities for faculty, staff and students can be made by arrangement.

The Building

The lower level of Allen Memorial Library houses the Curriculum Library which supports the University's undergraduate and graduate library education programs as well as the Teacher Education program. It provides

a representative collection of pre-school through high school instructional resources including textbooks and instructional multimedia, along with children's fiction and nonfiction books. In addition, the library cooperates with the Valley City Area Teacher Center and the South East Education Cooperative (SEEC) by housing those collections and providing office space for administrative personnel. Resources in the Teacher Center are available for use by university staff, students, and faculty under the cooperative arrangement.

Customized Study Areas

Library users are invited to study collaboratively in a casual setting on the first floor areas of the library where conversation, watching TV and social interaction is encouraged. Other study areas located throughout the building—in the stacks, on second floor and in the Curriculum Library—are designated for small group and individual study. Cell phone use is permitted in all areas. However, cell phone users are encouraged to step away from quiet study areas when having extended conversations to respect the study needs of others.

History & Special Collections

Allen Memorial Library was named after Carlos Eben Allen, the 3rd president of Valley City State University, and opened its doors in 1951. It presently houses more than 100,000 books, periodicals, microforms, and nonprint materials. The collection's strengths reflect the curricular strengths of the university: education, business, information science, the arts, as well as general science, mathematics, humanities, and social sciences.

Special collections include:

- The North Dakota and North Dakota Documents Collection
- The Larry Woiwode Manuscript Collection
- The James D. Ployhar Score Collection
- VCSU Archives