

Cheng Chat

The Cheng Library is open more than 100 hours a week thanks to our full time and part time staff. Additionally, we rely on about 25 students who work for the Library through the financial aid work/study program. These students contribute to the many services that the library offers including, checking out those books and videos you need, making sure returns are put back on the shelf, processing materials we borrow from other libraries, helping with copy/scanning equipment, and much more. These students have a behind-the-scenes look at the library. We thought we'd share some of their insights with you!

We asked our student assistants to share the tips, short cuts, and words of wisdom about the library that would benefit all students. Here are some of their comments:

“Basic search tools like ChengFind and the Course Reserves lookup are readily available on the Library’s website. These tools are essential for finding call numbers so you can locate the books upstairs, tell you if the book is already checked out, and lead you to books on the subject you are researching.”

“The interlibrary loan system is here for you but people also need to learn how to tell if we already have the article so they don’t make an unnecessary request!”

“Use the databases and article service!”

“Most students are not sure how to search for articles, or when they find an article how to know if the Library has it or not. Students should learn about it and take advantage of all that.”

“The stacks look confusing, but there are signs above the ends that tell you which call numbers are in that area. Just match it to the call number that you got from the catalog.”

“There are many books that are online. These are great – you don’t have to worry about taking it home or to class.”

“You can scan to a flashdrive rather than making copies. You can even borrow a flashdrive at Lending Services if you don’t have one.”

“If you are in the library to study or do homework, it’s best not to have your computer open. It’s too easy to be distracted by Twitter, Facebook or the internet in general.”

“The study rooms on the 2nd floor are NOT soundproof. Noise from conversations and music can disturb others.”

“Be honest. Don’t tell yourself that you and your friends are going to study when all you are really doing is hanging out in the library! If your intention is to study, the best is to study by yourself. Then go hang out with friends!”

“Use the Library to your advantage. It’s here for you and there are lots of things here and some get rarely used. Take advantage of these services!”

The Library is a great place to work on campus! Students who are hired by the library usually end up working until they graduate and a number of former student workers are now full and part time staff members in the library.

Stop by the Library or visit our webpages to find out more about our resources, services and excellent staff – all here for you!