

We're in Blackboard Vista !

The Library Shell

Every MxCC student and instructor is enrolled in the Blackboard Vista course "MxCC – Library." Point students here for information on accessing library resources from home, library services for distance learners, and online research tutorials.

Accessing Library Resources from Off-Campus

To find eBooks and articles, students need to go to the "Library" tab in my-CommNet. (Note: they *cannot* access library resources from home via the library website.) For more information, see 'How to Access Library Resources from Home—<http://www.mxcc.commnet.edu/library/blackboard/accesshome.pdf>

Online Tutorials

To aid students with research, instructors may link to these tutorials from their course shell:

Introduction to the Library: <http://www.mxcc.commnet.edu/library/Tutorials/Intro/IntroLib.html>

Research Process 101: <http://www.mxcc.commnet.edu/library/Tutorials/Research/ResearchProcess.html>

How to Find What You Need: <http://www.mxcc.commnet.edu/library/Tutorials/Find/HowToFind.html>

Evaluating Websites:

<http://www.mxcc.commnet.edu/library/Tutorials/Evaluate/EvalWebsites.html>

Avoiding Plagiarism and Using Proper Citation:

<http://www.mxcc.commnet.edu/library/Tutorials/Cite/CitingSources.html>

Live Research Help

We can provide live help to your class via Blackboard's Chat feature. Contact us to schedule a time!

Information Literacy Instruction



Jean Burr Smith Library
100 Training Hill Road
Middletown, CT 06457
860.343.5830

mx-library@mxcc.commnet.edu

Information is a prominent part of all facets of our modern society and lifestyle. As such, Middlesex Community College recognizes the importance of information literacy: the ability to understand, navigate, and use information effectively. Accordingly, MxCC has established competencies in information literacy that students should attain upon graduation. Specific outcomes include the ability to:

- Recognize how information is generally organized and disseminated and how to access it.
- Identify key resources for and effectively navigate information within specific disciplines.
- Define a specific research topic and determine the nature and extent of the information needed for it.
- Develop and implement an initial search strategy appropriate for a specific research need.
- Assess the effectiveness of a search strategy and refine it as necessary.
- Evaluate information and sources critically to determine if they are appropriate for use.
- Identify and employ practices which are consistent with the ethical and legal uses of information.
- Organize, synthesize, and communicate information effectively.

The MxCC Library website—A wealth of online information including ‘Help with your Research’; ‘Recommended Websites’; interlibrary loan service; placing items on reserve; online tutorials; and class guides and tip sheets (see below for more info).

<http://www.mxcc.commnet.edu/library>

Library instruction—Held in your class, a student computer room, Pegasus Gallery, or hands-on computer time in the library. Phone us to discuss, or use the online instructional request form found under ‘Faculty Quick Links’ on the website.

One-on-one instruction—If a student needs additional support, you may want to encourage them to call to schedule an appointment with one of the MxCC librarians.

Library workshops— Brief library orientations held at the beginning of the Fall and Spring semesters. Periodic workshops on focused topics such as e-reference and citations. Look for announcements on the website.



Class Guides — We can create an online guide relating to a specific assignment, class, and/or multiple learning outcomes.

For examples, visit <http://mxchlt103.blogspot.com/> or <http://fs100mxcc.blogspot.com/>

Tip Sheets — Visit the library website [www.mxcc.commnet.edu/library]. From the left hand column, ‘Help with your Research’, ‘Finding Information’, you’ll find tip sheets created in response to specific assignments as well as general concepts. For example: how to find literary reviews and criticisms, statistical and background info, and college success tips.

Contact us to discuss the possibilities!