We now offer ebrary, an e-book collection of 20,000+ titles in support of community college programs. Library staff have been comparing e-book offerings over the years and found ebrary offers quality titles, academic content, and a user friendly interface. With powerful features, users can efficiently find, use, and manage the information they need online with anytime/anywhere access.

This database service offers multiple options for searching and navigating, highlighting and annotating. Text-to-speech and other keyboard shortcuts assist users with special accessibility needs. Access ebrary from any QCC computer, or from off campus with your Alden Library barcode: click Databases by Title A-Z on the library’s home page:

http://www.qcc.mass.edu/library.

New Literary Resource

If the term “literary criticism” makes you picture “those big brown books,” you may want to replace that image with a computer screen shape or think of a plain document. That’s what you find when you search in the new Gale Literature Resources. This online set of resources for articles, essays, and web pages about authors and their works draws from the Gale realm of databases. This includes the reprints found in many of the volumes of Contemporary Literary Criticism, Twentieth Century Literary Criticism, Short Story Criticism, as well as an array of full text journal articles.

Instead of having to parse this:


researchers can view a citation like this and click directly into the full text link:


Full-text

Like most of the databases, subject headings are clickable to narrow a search or to identify the terminology the database recognizes. Also like other interfaces, Gale provides tools for print, email, download, and formatting the citation for MLA style.

Library Quick Fact

In FY09, 4,969 students attended 275 library instruction classes. Three types of classes are taught: general orientation to the library, information literacy on resources for specific disciplines, and assignment-specific research instruction sessions.

Professional Development Collection


The 345-page volume has call number LB2336 .S87 2009.

Suskie’s updated guide has the goal of offering practical guidance in assessing students among “ever-increasing demands for improvement and accountability.” It offers customizable rubrics and a host of recommended readings. The author is vice president of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education.

We are grateful to Nancy O'Sullivan, our Saturday Librarian, for filling in during the week while we wait for the arrival of our new librarian. (Where did Fyiane go? Off to Ithaca, NY).
Library Services @ QSB

While the QCC campus is abuzz with talk about the new site at Southbridge, adjunct faculty are out there doing the work of delivering high quality instruction to over 500 students. The Alden Library is thrilled to be a part of this adventure. In order to support teaching and learning at QSB, we are offering the following library services:

• onsite and remote access to online library resources, including a huge number of online reference and periodical databases and ebrary, a collection of 22,000 electronic books which specifically support community college programs
• print book delivery through the C/WMARS system, with pick-up at the Jacob Edwards Library in Southbridge
• videos and DVDs mailed to faculty homes and returned to campus by the QSB Site Administrator
• classroom visits by appointment by a QCC librarian offering assignment-specific library instruction
• online (e-mail and chat) and phone reference service available during the 67 hours a week that the library is open. (After hours, students are referred to the MassAnswers reference support program funded by the state of Massachusetts.)

For details about how all this works, please see the Resources for Faculty page on the Alden Library Website:
http://www.qcc.mass.edu/library/Faculty_page.htm

NEW LOOK TO OUR WEBPAGE!

The library’s homepage has a new look. The layout has been simplified while adding more information and tools. Buttons to the most-used pages are down the left side. Content and links to resources are divided by type into tabs for quicker page loads. The most used reference database links are in the top tab. Quick search widgets to our most popular search tools and a new Reference Online Help button round out the Reference Resources tab. Click on the Reference Online Help button and you will find a variety of ways to ask the reference librarians a question, including online chat. Library Services and News tabs bring more information to the front with a click. Explore further at http://www.qcc.mass.edu/library/FAQpolicies/policies_laptop.htm

Student Laptops in a Nutshell

Do your students divide into groups to do collaborative learning projects? Would it help if the HLC group study rooms had computers they could use? Laptops provide access to the Web and to Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher, and Access.

The Alden Library provides laptops for this purpose. It takes a few minutes for a student to enroll in the program the first time. After that, it is quick and easy. The student must have a current valid QCC ID and leave it in exchange for the laptop. Use training is provided, including directions on how to print and save to an external drive. The laptops have only about 2 hours of battery power so, if the student is working on a document, s/he will need to save to an external USB drive frequently.

More details about the Alden Library Student Laptop Program are available at:
http://www.qcc.mass.edu/library/FAQpolicies/policies_laptop.htm

The Backstory

Alexis Wright’s *Carpentaria*, new at Alden Library, is a large-canvas portrayal of aborigines in Australia’s northern state of Queensland. Using a desert setting that can rapidly turn to swamp during typhoons, Wright celebrates some devoted citizens, quarrelsome families, nomadic evangelicals, and star-crossed fisher folk. She sets her modern-day story against eons of the Dreamtime, during which the native peoples are said to have dreamed the continent into existence.

*Carpentaria* has won Australia’s highest literary prize. The library call number for it is PR9619.3 .W67 C37 2009.

This link leads to information about the author on the Australia Arts Council website:

— Michael Stevenson

Book Review

Library Quick Facts:

— By mid-October in FY10, library staff had ordered 762 book titles and 88 DVDs.
— In FY 09, 2,422 new titles were added to our book collection.
— In FY09, our students and faculty checked out 8,682 items (including 1,435 loans from other libraries) and we sent out a record 5,086 books to distance education students and community borrowers.

— Denise Cross

Alden Library telephones:
Reference — 508-854-4366 Circulation — 508-854-4581
Current hours are posted near each entry door and on the web

— Michael Stevenson


— Denise Cross

http://www.qcc.mass.edu/library/FAQpolicies/policies_laptop.htm

— Michael Stevenson