

Gallaudet University Library

How unique are we?

General Collection

- Print resources that support the University's curriculum
- A growing collection of e-books, including a large DDA collection
- General periodicals, primarily electronic
- Popular DVDs (no longer growing) **ALL CAPTIONED**
- Includes some items that might be considered "deaf" in other libraries
- Collections of the Washington Research Library Consortium

Deaf Collection

- Materials by/about deaf people, deaf culture, and sign languages
- Intended to be a comprehensive collection
- Books (print and electronic), videos, media, journals
- Some sound recordings and videos that do not have captions
- Archives

Deaf vs. General Collection

- Deaf: materials relating to Deaf people, Deaf culture, and sign languages
- General: Deafness as pathology: audiology, acoustics, communication devices, ear, hearing aids, hearing disorders, lip reading, middle ear, noise, speech

Information Literacy

- Classes
- One-on-one appointments
- Videos



Reference

- Mostly face-to-face, email, chat, some VP, almost no voice phone
- Gallaudet users
 - Typical academic library (support for papers and projects in all subject areas, literature reviews)
 - Deaf research (from very basic to in-depth)
- Non-Gallaudet
 - Statistics!
 - Access to databases
 - Students from other universities
 - Learning ASL, parents of deaf children, legal issues...

Staff

- 5 librarians (3 hearing, 2 Deaf)
- 1 archivist (Deaf)
- 6 technicians (all Deaf)
- Student assistants (staff Desk alone)

Challenges

- English instructions/documents
- Students don't fully understand research concepts
- ASL instructions/explaining difficult concepts
- Class size