



registered for the Extended Studies Programme (ESPs). Another development in 2022 was an **orientation programme** for new academics. Academics are encouraged to arrange with their faculty librarians for their students to attend the ongoing I&DL skills programme.

2.2 Faculty Liaison Programme

The Faculty Liaison programme provides a conducive interface between the Library and faculties. Through this programme we develop discipline specific learning resources with faculties, provide course support, ongoing Information and Digital literacy skills training, workshops on our subject and research libguides, etc. We also provide training on the effective use of scholarly databases. Your knowledgeable faculty librarians are accessible at Levels 2- 4 of the Main Library. To see your faculty Librarian teams, click [here](#).

3. Research Support

Our research support ranges from specialized Digital Scholarship services to a myriad of other valuable research support services, including Scholarly Communication, Rhodes Research commons (Institutional repository, Research Data Management, Rhodes Journal service (OJS) are some of our flagship research support services provided by the Library. Research support also is in the form of workshops on the use of systematic reviews as a research methodology, citing and referencing, how to avoid plagiarism, research integrity (how to avoid predatory journals, conferences, publishers and publishing) and fake news. For more information, visit our research support page [here](#).

4. Library Facilities

The University Library provides world-class learning and study spaces. Our virtual tour will enhance your experience with our venues and facilities. You can tour our main Library and its facilities. Take a [virtual tour here](#).

Where to find us

Rhodes University Library has both an onsite and virtual footprint. The physical presence is comprised of five library sites, the Main Library, the Cory Library for Humanities Research, the Alistair Kerr Law Library, the Sound Library, and the Teacher Resource Centre. The two affiliated libraries are the Margaret Smith Library at the South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity (SAIAB), and the International Library of African Music (ILAM). [Click here](#) for more information on each of these libraries.

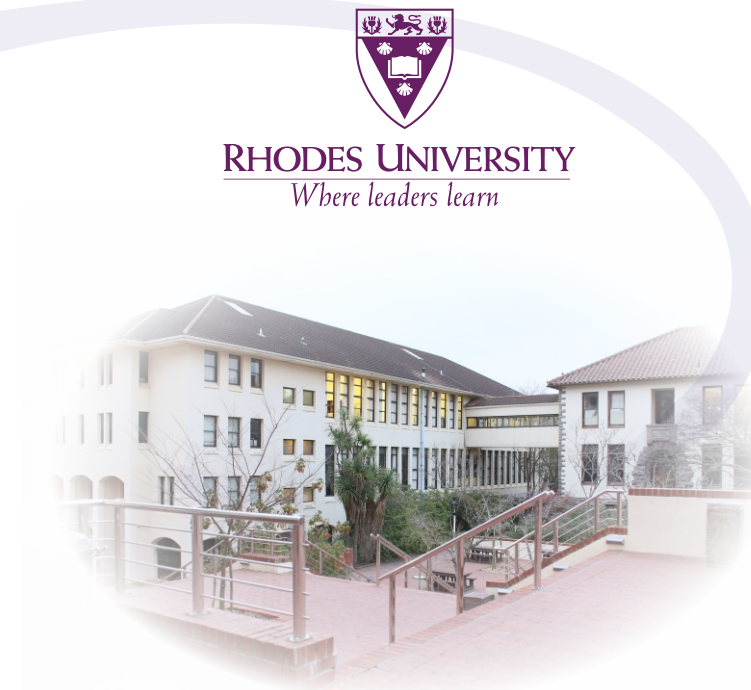
Library Membership

All registered students and Rhodes University staff are members of the Library. Staff and community members are required to register annually to have access to the library services and facilities. For all your membership queries and problems with login procedures contact the Circulation Desk or Library@ru.ac.za

Contact us

Library, Artillery Road, Makhanda, 6139
PO Box 184, Makhanda, 6140, South Africa
+27(0)46 603 8436

YOUR LIBRARY; YOUR PARTNER FOR ACADEMIC SUCCESS



RHODES UNIVERSITY
Where leaders learn

Guide to Rhodes University Library (RUL) Services-2023



Who we are

We are an academic support service and partner that provides access to diverse contextual learning and research collections, services, spaces, and facilities to support the academic project. We value strategic collaborations and partnerships with stakeholders and communities.

Purpose Statement

Rhodes University Library and Information Services are committed to supporting the mission of Rhodes University in the pursuit of knowledge by students, researchers, scholars, and communities, by providing quality learning resources, user-centered services, and the skills required to participate in the knowledge economy effectively and, a conducive physical and virtual learning environment, that enhances intellectual creativity, free and open exchange of knowledge and ideas.

Our Services and Programmes

The Library operates in a hybrid environment. It provides onsite and offsite services. Onsite services include but are not limited to access to all our learning resources including print, lending/Circulation services, faculty based services and hubs with context-relevant print collections. IT helpdesk & technology support; library venues & facilities, and services for the **differently abled**. For an overview of some services that you can expect onsite click [here](#).

The library website is a gateway to all our learning resources and services. Online/Remote services include but not limited to access to online resources and search platforms, **Libanswers**, where you chat and ask specific questions to librarians; subject, research & general **libguides**, opening hours, **a virtual tour**, and our popular **online tutorial & videos**. About 80% of our learning resources are accessible online. Our search all tutorial will guide you through the search process. There is a Xhosa translation of **Search all**.



Teaching, Learning & Research Support

1. Resources for Learning

The Library Services Division receives a substantive annual Information Resources (IR) grant towards the development of learning resources from the institution. It also uses other grants to develop context-relevant and discipline-specific learning resources to support the academic project.

These collections are developed through several processes, including:

Curriculum-aligned procurement (once-off purchases and/or subscription-based) of materials (Print & eBooks, journals and databases, deposits and donation, verified open access resources, Rhodes community research outputs (Research data, articles, conference proceedings, theses & dissertations, etc.), digitized analog materials and Special Collections. NB Registered Rhodes library users may **recommend** an item to purchase through their dedicated Faculty Librarian.

1.1 Access to all Learning Resources

The Library has +- 300 000 volumes of print books onsite, +-299 439 unique e-books titles, and more than 66 online scholarly databases. The **A-Z** is an alphabetical list of databases subscribed to by Rhodes. Access to content and other services is through the Library's **web page**. Once you are here, you can search our Library catalogue using the exact title/ subject/keyword/s. Rhodes University staff and students have seamless access to our services and learning resources. However new students and new staff members must set up or have their library account activated to access online databases, e-journals & eBooks remotely/off-campus. This short video explains the easy steps to follow in setting up your **"My Library Account."**

1.2 The short loan collection

This is the most heavily used by staff and students. Short loan includes materials reserved by lecturers for immediate and short-term access. You will have to visit the library to access short loan and other print resources held by the library during opening hours. These hours are subject to change at any time due to specific regulations, Public Holidays, extended times during the examinations, etc. Changes are communicated regularly by posting on the Library entrance, the Library's webpage, social media, and e-mail. For all access or loan-related inquiries, contact our Circulation desk or send an email to libloansupport@ru.ac.za or directly to j.nene@ru.ac.za or a.mncwabe@ru.ac.za

1.3 Access to Electronic Learning Resources

We encourage users to use our **eResources** for their ease of access on campus and remotely. RU Library is a member of the South East Academic Library System (SEALS), a consortium of the four academic libraries (NMU, WSU, Fort Hare & Rhodes) in the Eastern Cape. The Common Library system "Sierra" is a host to a myriad of learning resources of the x4 libraries using a **shared catalog**. The common library catalogue across SEALS enables sharing of resources through Inter library loan systems within the consortium. **NB** The subscription-based e-Resources are accessible to the current Rhodes University staff & students only, as a significant portion of e-Resources is subject to terms and conditions stipulated in license agreements with vendors. Community members including Makhanda residents, who need access to subscription-based electronic resources, must contact the Circulation desk staff. To browse our e-journals by subject click [here](#). You can also filter through the Rhodes e-books [here](#).

2. Our Programmes

2.1 First-Year Experience (FYE) Programme:

Our FYE programme kicks off with orientation week (O-week) each year. The Library O-Week programme is paired with the 1st Year poll, whose results help to review the ongoing Information Literacy Skills Instruction. Librarians offer Information & Digital literacy (I&DL) skills to 1st year students. The discipline specific I&DL skills programme is offered to all 1st year students who are