Annual Report
Academic Year 2017-2018

Course Reserves
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Introduction

Course reserves provides students with free and easy access to materials they need to prepare for classes and exams. The UMD Libraries provide both hard copy reserves (books, videos, and other items that are borrowed from a service desk or kiosk) and electronic reserves (scanned or born-digital readings available for online viewing in ELMS).

Use of course reserves by instructors has fluctuated since Ares was implemented in 2008, with a general downward trend.
What's New in Reserves

- Added e-book request form and improved Ares webpages - June 2017
- Enabled instructors to import items from prior courses - June 2017
- Provided customized, on-site training for branch libraries - Summer 2017
- Launched Top Textbooks Availability Search - Summer 2017
- Co-hosted Open Textbook Network workshops - September 2017
- Began lending graduate school exam study guides - November 2017
- Began applying OCR to e-reserves files - June 2018
- Implemented new hourly fines and billing schedule - July 2018
- Upgraded to Ares version 4.7 - July 2018
At a Glance: Instructor-Initiated Reserves

- 82 Departments
- 260 Instructors
- 442 Courses
- 8,711 Students
- 5,105 Items

This service served 22% of UMD students, but was used with only 6% of courses taught last year.
We Provided:

- 2,284 Books
- 1,326 Book Chapters
- 1,190 Articles
- 74 Ebooks
- 84 Videos
- 65 Audio

At a Glance (continued)

- 2,340 Hard Copy Reserves
- 2,765 E-Reserves
- 1,665 PDFs
- 1,100 Weblinks

4% decrease from AY 2017

16% increase from AY 2017
Electronic Reserves

data from Ares only

Student usage is down, returning to AY2016 levels

Items used 51,497 times *
Average use per item: 18.6 times *

Turnaround time decreased for the 2nd year in a row!

1.4 days on average *
85% available by date needed

* 40% decrease from AY 2017
Hard Copy Reserves

Student usage is up, thanks to Top Textbooks

Items used
20,173 times*

Average use per item:
8.13 times

*19% increase from AY 2017

84% used

Turnaround time decreased by 1 day!

7.5 days on average**

80% available by date needed***

**12% decrease from AY 2017

***5% increase from AY 2017
Courses Using Reserves

data from Ares only

AY 2018
- Undergraduate Major
- Graduate
- Intro & General Ed

AY 2017
- Undergraduate Major
- Graduate
- Intro & General Ed

Drop in e-reserves usage in AY2018 is likely a result of fewer introductory classes using reserves (-6) and fewer electronic items (-166) placed on reserve for those large classes.

Undergraduate classes in AY2018 requested fewer electronic and more hard copy items than in AY2017.
HIST continues as the #1 department by courses, while PLCY, EMBA, and INST are new to the top.
Architecture Library

15 courses with items on reserve
431 books (self-service kiosks)

Featured service:
- 1 studio kiosk for ARCH600
- 3 library kiosks can support up to 18 courses per semester

Art Library

14 courses with items on reserve
195 books (self-service kiosks)

Featured service: Pop up kiosk in the Stamp Gallery provided 19 books for visitors to the Vox Lacunae exhibit, July 18-August 22.
Library Media Services

- 15 courses with items on reserve
- 38 videos (1.2 loans on average)
- Featured service: Streaming Media
  - 486 courses
  - 2,234 of assets streamed

Michelle Smith Performing Arts Library

- 20 courses with items on reserve
- 321 books (3 loans on average)
- 59 videos (3 loans on average)
- 65 audio (1.7 loans on average)
McKeldin Library

225 courses with items on reserve
1,837 books (4.4 loans on average)

Featured Service: Exam Study Guides
22 guides for 8 tests, including the GMAT, GRE, LSAT, MCAT, and 4 computer certification exams

Top Textbooks

183 courses served
731 books (11.5 loans on average)

In its 2nd year, the textbook donation drive resulted in:
- 284 donations received
- 42 additions to the collection

374 items provided in Spring 2018 (48% increase from Spring 2017)

3,043 unique borrowers served (51% increase from 2016-2017)

8,157 loans (27% increase from 2016-2017)
Priddy Library at Shady Grove

792 items provided for 385 classes taught by 160 instructors across 8 institutions

STEM Library

42 courses with items in Ares
172 books (4.7 loans on average)

Featured service:
Anatomical models on reserve
- 1 skeleton (41 loans)
- 2 muscle models (93 loans)
Successful Initiatives

Easy Importing in ELMS
In June 2017 we introduced an importing function into ELMS, which gives instructors a self-service option to copy content from their prior courses (saving both instructor and staff time). Since then 84 instructors have imported 1,335 items using this feature.

Optical Character Recognition
Optical character recognition (OCR) makes files machine-readable. Not only is OCR an important accessibility consideration for those using screen readers, it also allows users to easily search within their documents. In June 2018 our new OCR software processed 2,970 e-reserves files, for a total of 69,132 pages of searchable text.

Vetting E-Books:
In Dec. 2015 we partnered with Acquisitions to create new workflows for vetting and purchasing e-books for reserves. In Fall 2017 we finally reached our original goal: 100% of ebooks placed on reserve permit unlimited simultaneous users.
"Thank you for taking care of this so promptly! You've all been extremely helpful as I've put my course together, and I can't tell you how much I appreciate that.

-- School of Public Policy Faculty

Have you benefitted from McKeldin's Top Textbook Reserve Program? We'd like to know!

Check here for your textbooks:
go.umd.edu/pws

47% Yes
12% No
12% Not yet, but I hope to
29% Tell me more

17 votes • Final results

"Many thanks for supporting the students with this [Top Textbooks on Reserve] program."

-- School of Business Faculty