LIBRARIES

With access to the Libraries’ friendly staff, welcoming spaces, and the best scholarly information available, MIT students never have to get stuck working on a problem alone.

The Libraries can connect students to information from wherever they happen to be, with more than five million items in print and digital formats. Partnerships with Harvard (https://libraries.mit.edu/borrow/non-mit-access/harvard), Wellesley (https://libraries.mit.edu/borrow/non-mit-access/area-libraries), and other Ivy Plus institutions (https://libraries.mit.edu/borrow/borrowdirect) allow students to visit and use their collections, and MIT’s WorldCat (http://mit.worldcat.org) lets students request materials from other libraries worldwide. Consulting a librarian is often the quickest route to help students find what they need, and we encourage them to Ask Us (http://libraries.mit.edu/ask). We’ve got experts in every subject (https://libraries.mit.edu/experts) from aeronautics to urban studies, plus specialists in geographic information systems, research data management, copyright, and much more.

Any student is welcome in any of our libraries, whether they are looking for expert help, to collaborate on a group project, or simply take a study break. Our five locations (https://libraries.mit.edu/locations) offer some of the campus’s most sought-after study spaces (https://libraries.mit.edu/study), offering extreme quiet, secure 24/7 access, flexible furniture, or comfortable seats with a river view.

The Libraries are a portal to the knowledge produced at MIT and beyond. The Institute Archives and Special Collections (http://libraries.mit.edu/archives) contain MIT’s founding documents, the personal papers of noted faculty such as “Doc” Edgerton and Norbert Wiener, and rare books like Newton’s Principia. Students can explore the digital repository DSpace@MIT (https://dspace.mit.edu) to access decades of MIT theses and scholarly works by MIT faculty and researchers.

The Libraries are more than just a place for students to consume information—we invite them to engage through hackathons, exhibits, an audio lab, an all-campus reading program, and dozens of workshops during Independent Activities Period (IAP) (http://catalog.mit.edu/mit/undergraduate-education/academic-research-options/independent-activities-period) and throughout the year. Find all our upcoming classes and events at libraries.mit.edu/events.