

AFIT Librarian Newsletter

Check It Out

Fourth
Quarter
Newsletter
2025

Welcome to the latest edition of our quarterly newsletter. We are excited to share with you updates from our library. **Check it out:**

Fall Textbook List

The Fall Textbook List is at the circulation desk in the library. The library staff checks the collection to see what titles we have as e-books and in print. The Fall Textbook List was sent out to AFIT All on 29 August 2025.

New Faculty Orientation

On 24 September 2025, Wheeler Hall, Librarian, presented information on library resources for the new faculty orientation.

Meet & Greet for New Students

The week of 8-12 September 2025, the AFIT Reader Services Department hosted a Meet & Greet to welcome new students to the library. Students received an introduction to resources and key library services. They met the librarian liaisons and spent time talking with them, enjoyed refreshments and learned about the library in a relaxed atmosphere encouraging greater student engagement in seeking research help in their academic studies. We are dedicated to our role in the student's academic journey.



Librarian Liaisons

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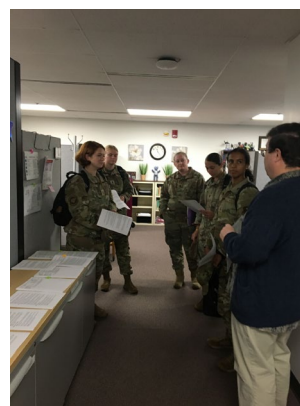
Elizabeth Irvine
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ENP
ENY
EX



*New student at the Meet & Greet
Photo courtesy of K. Siry*



**Welcome
New Students**



*New students talking with a
librarian at the Meet & Greet.
Photo courtesy of K. Siry*

New Student Orientation

Our librarians provided five new student orientation sessions in August.

- 04 August: Kenney Auditorium (ROTC and USAFA Grads) - Sara Craycraft
- 11 August: Kenney Auditorium (Active duty PCS'ers) - Phillip Elam
- 12 August: Kenney Auditorium (Active duty PCS'ers) - Elizabeth Irvine
- 19 August: D'Azzo Research Library Classroom (International Students) - Kathleen Siry
- 25 August: Bane Hall (PCA students) - Wheeler Hall



*Kathleen Siry, Chief of Reader Services, conducting new student orientation for international students.
Photo courtesy of S. Craycraft*

Interesting Fact About Libraries

Studies reveal a significant correlation between library instruction and GPAs. The findings show that student use of libraries and receiving instruction contributes to higher academic achievement, demonstrating libraries' essential role for student success.

Gaha, Ulla, et.al. (2018) The Library's Contribution to Academic Success: Library Instruction and GPA. *College and Research Libraries*. Vol. 79, No. 6. pp.737-746.

Generative AI Presentation

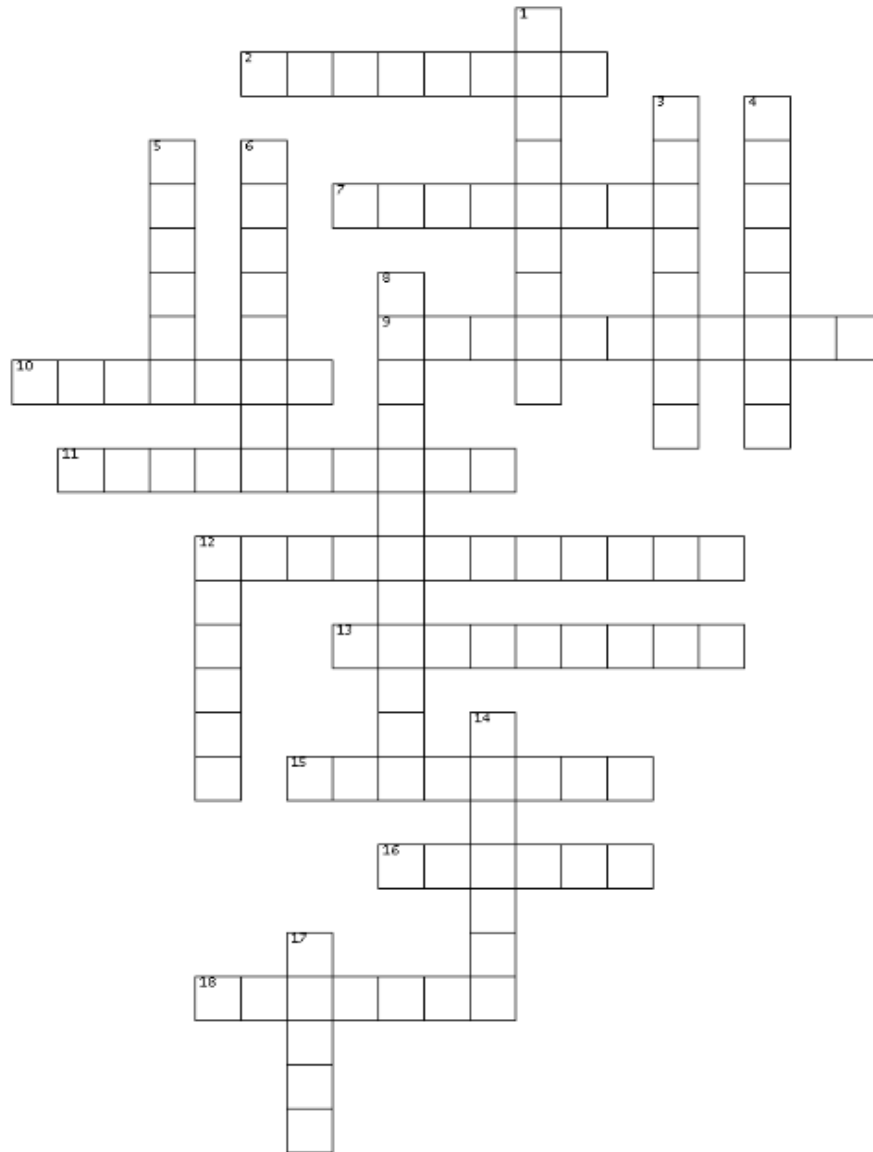
On 29 September 2025, Kathleen Siry, Chief of Reader Services, conducted "Exploring Generative AI". The hybrid presentation, held in the computer classroom, included information about large language models, critical evaluation and citing generative AI.

Library Instruction

Sara Craycraft, Librarian, conducted two presentations for ENS students, in the GEM program, on 17 September 2025.

Elizabeth Irvine, Librarian, conducted a presentation on reference managers, latex and overleaf for ENP students on 17 September 2025 and a presentation on library resources for ENY students on 24 September 2025.

Library Crossword Puzzle: A Novel Challenge



ACROSS

- 2. where valuable items are preserved
- 7. course related materials that are set aside
- 9. location where books are checked out
- 10. periodical containing scholarly articles
- 11. curated and managed set of materials
- 12. a list of sources used in a paper or research
- 13. a professional who manages information
- 15. gathering facts about a particular subject
- 16. shelves where library materials are stored
- 18. removing outdated or damaged items

(Answers will be in the next newsletter)

DOWN

- 1. desk where patron's ask questions
- 3. summary of a document or article
- 4. convert into digital form
- 5. person who wrote a book or article
- 6. searchable organized online data
- 8. ordering and acquiring new subscriptions
- 12. taking library item for a temporary period
- 14. a list of items in a library
- 17. to extend a borrowing period for an item

Featured Library Advocate

Dr. Teresa Rose



Database and Education Manager, CTR
ENWE

Photo courtesy of K. Siry

1. Tell us why the D'Azzo Research Library (DRL) is important to you?

There is a special magnetism which pulls me through its doors. When using the services of the D'Azzo Library, I am challenged intellectually, emotionally, and sometimes physically when I check out all the books that tempt me. Not only are the support staff caretakers of books and information but they have become my friends. They treat me as if I am the only one who needs a soul quenching drink of knowledge. Yes, I am addicted to learning and the D'Azzo library continues to feed my need to learn.

2. How do you utilize the library?

In a strange and funny way, D'Azzo is my safe place. I go there for research and even stress relief. Sounds nerdy but reading and learning challenges me to mentally grow in unexpected ways.

3. How do you describe the D'Azzo Research Library to others?

The D'Azzo library is a wonderful repository of knowledge

4. What are the top three library services that you use?

Research specialists, Writing lab, and online scholarly journals

5. What are the top three library resources that you use?

Books, online scholarly journals and some military scientific works

6. Do you have an example of how a library resource or service enhanced your work?

I am currently researching to write an article for publication. The team of research specialists has made it easier for me to gain the understanding I need across a broad set of publications.

7. Does the library's collection align with your needs?

I find the D'Azzo library meets my needs for research and a bit of informal learning.

8. Can you share a favorite memory of the library?

I was looking for more information on the 3-body problem. The reference librarian set up a SharePoint folder in my name so that I could read the articles she found on the subject. A small thing but oh so important to me.

9. What is a great book you have checked out from the library?

Current read -- *Stillness is the Key*. Author: Ryan Holiday

10. Do you enjoy the library's displays?

I am dazzled by the sparkling jewels of suggested readings that reside upon the translucent glass shelves.



Library Webpage

Visit the library's webpage! It is your gateway to valuable information about library research resources and services. <https://www.afit.edu/LIBRARY/>

On the library webpage you will find LibGuides, a content management system our librarians use to share information. <https://afit.libguides.com/?b=g&d=a>

New Libguide:

We have a new LibGuide on the topic of generative AI, created by Phillip Elam, Electronic Resources Librarian. Take a look: <https://afit.libguides.com/ai>

Library Survey

The library will be conducting a survey in November, which will be sent out to AFIT All. Your input is very valuable. Surveys provide us with crucial information about how the library resources and services are utilized by our customers. We gather insights and data to improve services, justify funding, and better serve the community. Look for the survey in your inbox in November 2025. We want to hear from you. Please provide your feedback, we're listening. Help us shape the future of your library.



Beyond the Bookshelves: Getting to Know Our Students

Captain Alex Harms, an AFIT student (ENY) and library customer, shared that when one of our librarians visited his class to provide library instruction, she talked about older AFIT theses being housed in the library. Capt Harms has a particular interest in older theses because his grandfather, Robert Mazik, earned a master's degree from AFIT writing the thesis, "Experimental Study of the Use of a Thin Flowing Water Film as a Means of Preventing Erosion" and became an engineer for the Air Force. His mother, Laureli Mazik, who was born at the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, attended the Air Force Academy and then came to Wright-Patterson, earning her master's degree, with her thesis, "Defining Acquisition and Contracting Terms Associated with Contract Administration".

Thank you, Capt Harms for sharing your story with us.

Spotlight on a Library Resource

Compendex is a comprehensive engineering database, covering a wide range of engineering fields. It has highly curated content and advanced search functionality. Compendex is part of our Engineering Village subscription from the vendor Elsevier. Compendex began as a print publication called the Engineering Index, which was first published in 1884. It was computerized and given the name Compendex in 1969. The name Compendex stands for **COMP**uterized **ENG**ineering **INDEX**.

Interlibrary Loan

Need an item that is not in the library's collection? Submit an interlibrary loan request form. We're here to help you obtain that needed item. Interlibrary Loans: Ruth Randall, ruth.randall@us.af.mil and Sara Craycraft, sara.craycraft@us.af.mil. [About Interlibrary Loan - Interlibrary Loan - LibGuides at The D'Azzo Research Library at AFIT](#)



"The only thing that you absolutely have to know, is the location of the library."

Albert Einstein

AFIT Scholar

AFIT Scholar (<https://scholar.afit.edu>) is a digital repository, started in 2017 to widely share AFIT's public access works with the research communities within and beyond the DOD. The Theses and Dissertations collection now has over 8,000 works going back to 1991, with full-text downloads. Faculty Publications, the other large collection, has over 2000 works included. The repository also contains AFIT patents and AFIT documents.

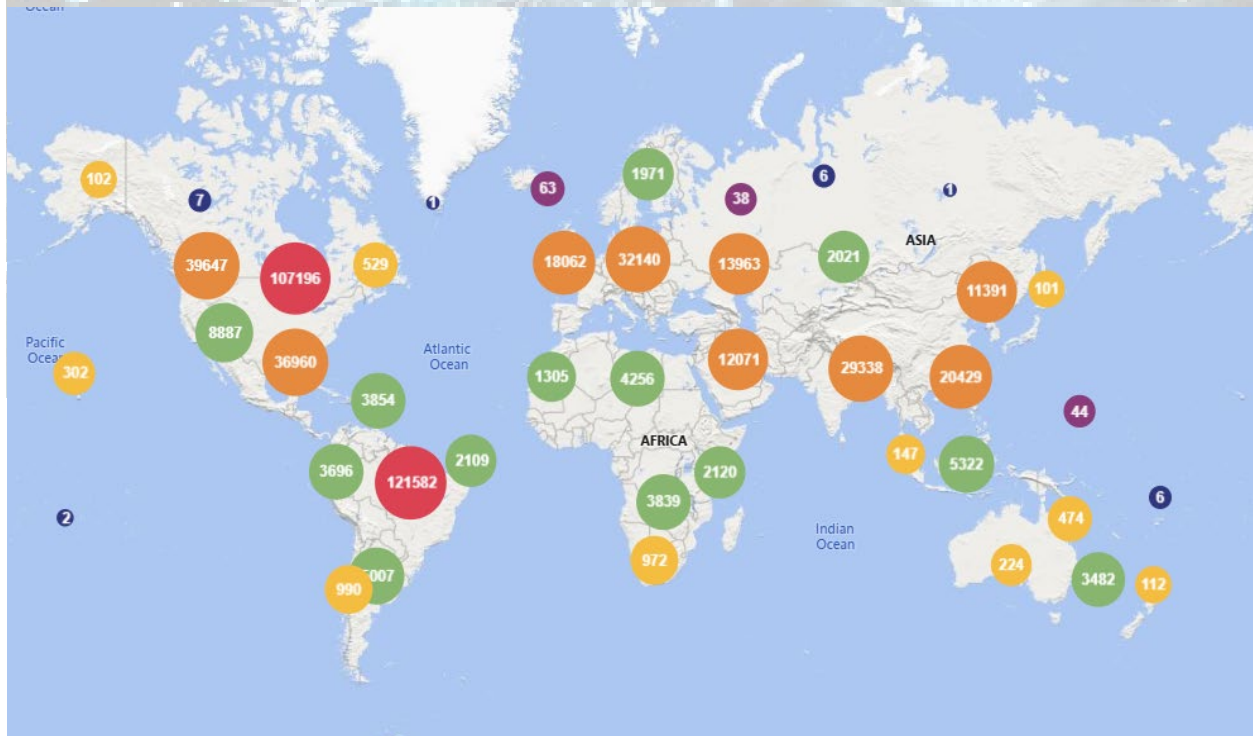
What's new?

A special area has been set up very recently to feature the public access works of the Center for Space Research and Assurance. This area includes CSRA's theses and dissertations, as well as the Center's faculty and student publications in journals and conferences. The CSRA collections are at <https://scholar.afit.edu/csra>

If your AFIT center or topic community would like to have an area on AFIT Scholar, contact the repository administrators at: afit.enwl.repository@us.af.mil

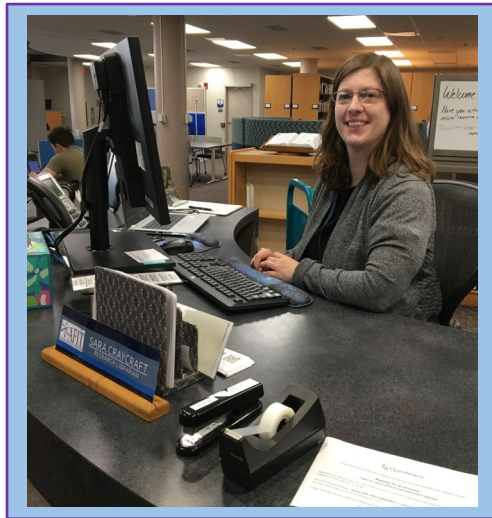
Here is a look at the global usage (downloads) of AFIT Scholar material in Academic Year 2024-25 (to date).

Distribution of downloads from 01 October 2024 to 16 September 2025



Let AFIT Scholar increase awareness of your published journal articles, conference papers and issued patents you've made while at AFIT.

Visit the Library Reference Desk



*Sara Craycraft, Librarian
Photo courtesy of K. Siry*

Ask us your questions. We are here to help you find the information you need. Visit the library reference desk.

Reference desks are vital in libraries for personalized human assistance in navigating complex information, developing critical information literacy skills, and providing a welcoming, tangible point of contact for users in an increasingly digital world. Librarians offer expertise in various information sources, help customers identify and evaluate relevant materials, and provide crucial one-on-one instruction.

Library Poster Printing

This past spring and summer, several events at AFIT relied on the library's poster making capabilities. In June, the CIE co-hosted the Data Analytics and Artificial Intelligence event, and in August, the Library itself hosted a poster session as part of its anniversary festivities, with the graduate school's academic departments represented.

What's a good size for my poster? A working flowchart sheet, or a map for an office wall or class exercise can print to 18" x 24" or 22" x 34". Those sizes are also suitable for event signage outside a door. However, a conference poster needs to be larger to accommodate text and graphics in font sizes that can be generally understood when standing about 6 feet away. Your event may have a poster size specification. 36" x 48" or its metric cousin, 33.1" x 46.8", are the most common sizes for a conference print.

To request a poster, you should send your request to the Library's Poster workflow mailbox at afit.enwl.posters@us.af.mil

If your poster file size is too big for email, please deliver to that same address by DOD Safe, <https://safe.apps.mil>.

We can print CUI posters. The poster should have all necessary security markings on the poster when the file is sent in. Please allow at least 2 full workdays to complete your poster. Poster work is limited to the research efforts of AFIT-affiliated faculty, students and staff in their work capacity.

Staff Book Picks for Fall Reading



Duckworth, Angela (2016) *Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance*. Schriber.

This book provides a new perspective on persevering and developing resilience, focusing on the importance of determination and direction to overcome obstacles. It insightfully reviews research the author has conducted over many years. Duckworth offers a compelling argument for the power of grit.

Duhigg, Charles (2014). *The Power of Habit: Why We Do What We Do in Life and Business*. Random House Trade Paperbacks.

In "The Power of Habit", award-winning business reporter Charles Duhigg takes the reader to the edge of scientific discoveries that explain why habits exist and how they can be changed. At its core, "The Power of Habit" contains an exhilarating argument: the key to being more productive, and achieving success is understanding how habits work. As Duhigg shows, readers can transform their businesses, communities, and lives.

Langer, Ellen (1989) *Mindfulness*. Addison-Wesley.

Ellen J. Langer, a Harvard psychology professor and author introduces her influential and groundbreaking work in *Mindfulness*. Based on highly innovative research conducted by Langer and her team, this book presents her unique concept of mindfulness. Langer's theory has been applied to a wide number of fields, including health, business, and learning.

Sandberg, Sheryl and Grant, Adam (2017) *Option B: Facing Adversity, Building Resilience, and Finding Joy*. Alfred A. Knopf.

Resilience comes from deep within us and from support outside us. Even after the most devastating events, it is possible to grow by finding deeper meaning and gaining greater appreciation in our lives.

Sinek, Simon (2019) *The Infinite Game*. Penguin Publishing Group.

Explores how an "infinite mindset", focusing on the long-term purpose of keeping the game going, rather than winning or losing, can lead to more resilient and inspiring organizations and businesses.

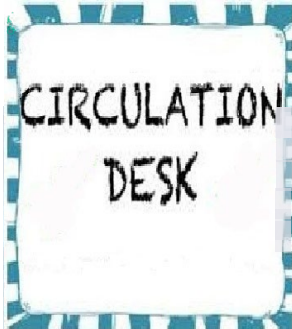
Tabatabaian, Mehrzad (2024). *Prompt Engineering Using ChatGPT: Crafting Effective Interactions and Building GPT Apps*. Mercury Learning and Information.

The right prompt can change everything. This book is your guide to mastering the art of crafting powerful prompts. Whether you're a curious beginner or a tech-savvy professional, Tabatabaian walks you through everything from novice user tips to advanced GPT app development.



Circulation Desk

The circulation desk is the first stop for many customers and a key service point in the library. The library's circulation team provides customer assistance for a variety of functions that are vital to the library's day-to-day operations, including creating new library accounts, checking out items, handling returns and renewals, as well as shelf reading, repairing books, reserves and shelving returned items. The circulation desk provides important services and supports the library's mission.



*Catherine Stahl, Library Technician
Photo courtesy of K. Siry*



*Ruth Randall, Library Technician
Photo courtesy of K. Siry*

AFIT and AFRL 25th Anniversary



Photo courtesy of K. Siry

The Air Force Institute of Technology and the Air Force Research Laboratory recently celebrated 25 collaborative years of research and innovation at the D'Azzo Research Library at AFIT, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

The event included opening remarks and a coin exchange. It concluded with a poster session displaying posters from AFIT students and faculty in collaboration with AFRL.



Take Flight!

The advantages of having flight simulators on campus are tremendous. Gain invaluable, hands-on experience. The simulators provide a cost-effective environment for risk-free practice. Fly a variety of aircraft in the flight simulators. Experience the thrill of flying without leaving the ground.



Two flight simulators are located on the third floor of the library. The flight simulators were originally built for the Awaiting Pilot Training students across the Graduate School, but they are open to anyone at AFIT. [Visit the library and take flight.](#)



Richard Mansfield, Digital Initiatives and Technologies Librarian (AF contributed photo)



LIBRARIAN
the original search engine

Library Hours 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Open Monday - Friday

Closed Federal Holidays

Circulation Desk: 937-255-3005

Reference Desk: 937-255-4207

Chief of Reader Services: 937-255-7667
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