

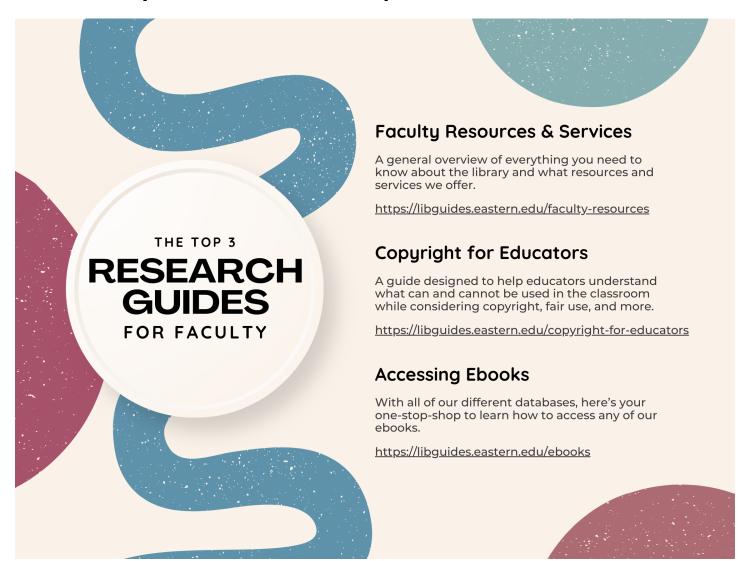
Library Connections

A newsletter of Warner Memorial Library

September 2025

Welcome to Academic Year 2025-2026!

For Faculty—Check out these top 3 essential Research Guides!



Updates on the Library of Things!

This summer, we obtained a few new things for our Library of Things in the library. Checkout periods are between 3 hours and 1 week. You can take a look at what is available by browsing the guide available on the library website under research guides or by clicking here: <u>link</u>.

We are looking to add a few more things to the Library of Things and are asking for your help! If you have any of these things that you would be willing to donate, either new or gently used, please let us know:

- Electric balloon pump
- Eyeglass repair kit
- Ice scraper
- Snow shovel
- HDMI cable
- Fishing pole
- Outdoor folding chairs (in protective bags)
- Glue gun & sticks
- Jumper cables
- Bubble machine
- Eastern necktie
- Extension cord
- Sewing kit



Time to put those materials on reserve in the library for the Fall!

Click here for the online form. Please do this as early as possible so that students do not check out the materials for personal use that you would like used for the whole class. Consider requesting a complimentary desk copy from the publisher for any books you are using and putting that copy on reserve for the students.

Contact Kathy Hecht for assistance (Kathy.Hecht@eastern.edu).

The **Lego campus** in the foyer of Warner Library is back bigger and better! Come take a look at the additions to the campus, like Templeton Hall and the Baseball field!

The **Lego minifig competition** is also back this year. Every two weeks, 5 new people will go head to head competing to see who will be added to the Lego campus based on donations to the library. If you would like to nominate someone to be built, please contact Kathy (Kathy.Hecht@Eastern.edu). Nominators can just give us the name or you can come build them out of our minifig

parts. To check on the weekly competition, stop into the library or check our Instagram page.







Ask Paísley the Library Cat!

Send your library-related questions to reference1777@eastern.edu! Dear Paisley,

Question: Are you right pawed or left pawed?

Submitted by Ambidextrous

Dear Ambidextrous,

What an interesting question. Did you know that all vertebrate animals have a limb preference? I didn't either, but your question got me digging into some research on right and left handedness or pawedness.

For anything relating to the brain, a good database to start with is PsycArticles. When I went in and searched "feline limb preferences" there is one article that popped up: "Lateral bias and temperament in the domestic cat (Felis silvestris)" (McDowell, Wells, & Dempster, 2016) from the Journal of Comparative Psychology.

Now that's an interesting article! The gist of it was this: in most species, to be left pawed correlates with having a more fearful reaction to stressful situations, and right pawed correlates to a more confident and relaxed demeanor in the face of stress. But, when those scientists who published the study researched cats, they found that both left and right-handed cats were equally affectionate and

calm and confident. Those who were more aggressive and fearful had a correlation to ambidextrousness or an equal preference for either paw. I thought you would be interested in learning about this. Go check out the article for yourself!

So, am I a righty or a lefty? I'm a righty. And so, so calm.

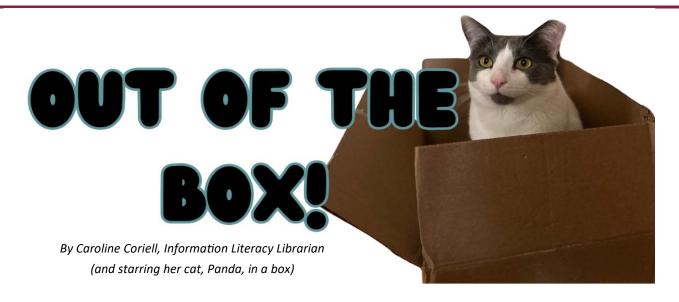
Sincerely, Paisley the Library Cat

Access Granted: Upgrades, Additions, and EBSCOhost Demystified

We've upgraded access to <u>Social Work Abstracts</u>. Produced by the National Association of Social Workers (NASW), this database is one of a handful subscriptions utilizing 'user bands' pricing, a tiered pricing model where each tier allows up to a maximum number of simultaneous users. We were at the first tier, which allowed up to 4 users. The growth of the MSW program prompted the move up several tiers to the 12 simultaneous users band. This all comes with a price of course, a 54% increase in the subscription cost. However, the upgrade should prevent these turnaways.

A newly added research tool is <u>PsycTESTS</u>. Published by the American Psychological Association (APA), this database provides access to tests, measures, scales, surveys and other assessments. Focusing primarily on unpublished tests developed by researchers but not made commercially available, it includes a diverse array of subject areas from scales for beliefs, relationships, or expectancies to physical health related assessments and personality assessments. Commercially available tests are also included with links to purchase the instrument from the publisher. PsycTESTS has broad appeal for students and researchers of many fields, from business and leadership to criminal justice and health.

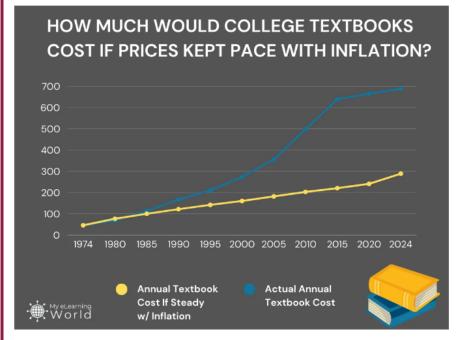
While on the topic of databases, it's a good opportunity to explain what is EBSCOhost and the difference between EBSCOhost and Academic Search Complete. The two are often confused, but they serve different purposes in academic research. EBSCOhost is a platform or interface that 'hosts' numerous databases, each focusing on specific subjects or types of content. EBSCOhost offers specialized databases like Business Source Complete, CINAHL (nursing and allied health), PsycINFO (psychology) and Academic Search Complete (multidisciplinary). Think of it like Netflix — EBSCOhost doesn't produce the content, but it gives access to many "channels" or "databases."



Welcome back, students and faculty! If you're a new student or a new reader, Out Of The Box is where we address requests placed in our suggestion box.

Following up on some book requests from last semester, we've ordered and received copies of *On Tyranny: Twenty Lessons From The Twentieth Century* by Timothy Snyder in graphic novel form. We also got <u>Perfect</u> by Ellen Hopkins. While not specifically requested, we also added her 2018 novel <u>People Kill People</u> to our collection, as well as *Fix* by J. Albert Mann. <u>Fix</u> is another book in verse that I think is thematically similar to Hopkins' work. We also ordered, received and cataloged <u>Eyes Of The Forest</u> and <u>Girl Forgotten</u> by April Henry; along with <u>I Found You</u> and <u>The Girls in The Garden</u> by Lisa Jewell. Jewell's work is downstairs, where you can find other adult fiction like <u>The Final Girl Support Group</u> by Grady Hendrix and <u>The Escape Room</u> by Megan Goldin. If you prefer digital formats, we think <u>Greenwich Park</u> by Katherine Faulkner or <u>Nothing More To Tell</u> by Karen McManus would pair nicely with these books.

We also received a request to acquire textbooks for certain introductory classes. We can sympathize with students that many textbooks are prohibitively expensive. It's a noted phenomenon that textbook pricing has outpaced inflation. Just look at this graphic from My eLearning World.

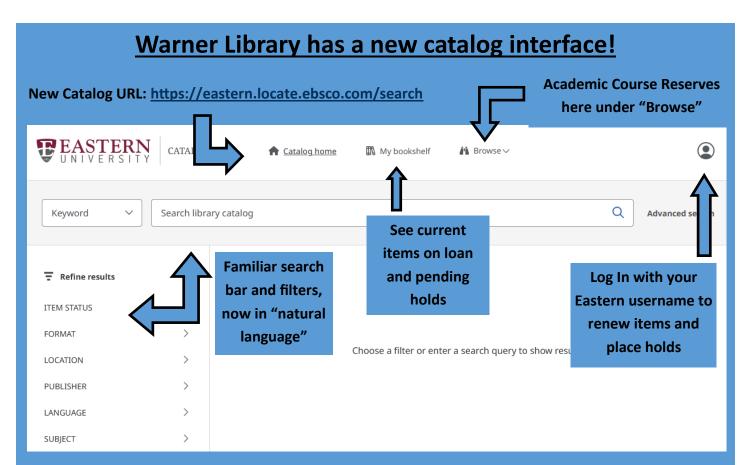


Absolutely dismal, right? With that established, it doesn't sound like a terrible idea for the library to purchase copies, and keep them on reserve. However, there are a couple problems that arise.

As stated in our aptly named <u>Statement On Textbook Purchasing</u>, which can be found on our <u>policies</u> page, many of the major publishers will not sell to libraries. Even if they did, books are updated and revised almost annually. If we were regularly purchasing these textbooks, it would cut into our ability to provide other necessary services.

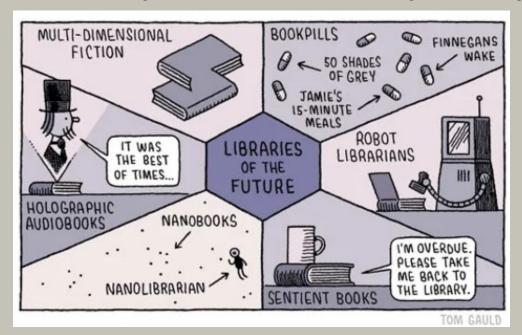
That doesn't mean we can't help though. You can always ask your professor to put a copy on reserve; and they'll get it back at the end of the semester. We can also

work with faculty on creating a new syllabus using open access resources, and materials already available through the library.



Contact the library staff if you have any questions!

Here's a library-themed comic for you... Enjoy!



Cartoon by Tom Gault: https://myjetpack.tumblr.com/post/43399808071/a-book-of-my-cartoons-will-be-out-in-late-april



