We live in an age of information. It constantly bombards us from every side – TV, radio, billboards, newspapers, books, cell phones, the internet and on and on. How do we find our way to the information we need right NOW??

Well, there’s always Google, standing by like a trusty friend. But while Google is good for some things, is it really worthy of our trust when we need scholarly information for a research paper? Do we have the time to search through 1.3 million results to find the “good stuff”? For Fontbonne students, there is an easier way.

INT199 Information Navigation & Evaluation, taught by Fontbonne librarians, is often a surprise to students who expect the one credit hour course to be a cake walk. But nine times out of ten they come away from INT199 admitting that they learned a lot about how to research effectively and are now in a much better position to navigate the information waters of university life ahead of them.

This 8-week blended Gen Ed course helps students answer the question of how and where to find good quality information. As one student reflected: “I took this class because it is a requirement. My thoughts were I would do the work, get a grade and that’s it. I was really wrong. The class unexpectantly (sic) taught me a lot. I have always considered myself a pretty strong “Googler”, but the textbook taught me the best ways to find information quicker and with eliminating the fluff.”

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One of the keys to academic success is awareness of your resources and using them effectively. Librarians are happy to help you with any questions regarding the Library, requests for instruction sessions, information on our collection development policies, or suggestions for materials to be added to the Library collection. We are also available as needed to assist you one-on-one with availability and use of Library resources for your courses and with your own research projects.

Curious where the bound periodicals are shelved? Do you know where the Curriculum Room is located? Want to check out the latest and greatest DVDs? The Librarians enjoy giving group and individual tours! The library contains three floors jam-packed with materials to help do your research, complete your projects, and enjoy your free time from your studies. Music, popular DVDs, best sellers, cookbooks, laptops, and e-readers share space with the usual library suspects: reference books, computers, and scholarly journals.

Please contact the library circulation desk or your Academic Department Liaison to schedule an appointment for a tour or a bibliographic instruction session.
Student Spotlight—Josh Mraz

What’s your major, Josh? Fashion Merchandising
When do you graduate? Summer 2012
What is your favorite book? So far it is Gunn’s Golden Rules by Tim Gunn
What are your plans for after you graduate? Well, hopefully I’ll be working. Currently I am interested in the field of product development. I also enjoy management roles so I am trying to narrow down what I am interested in by doing internships and volunteering my time to help me find the perfect job after I graduate. Even if I don’t find the perfect job that way, I will make some great contacts along my way.

Has Jack C. Taylor Library helped make your college experience better/easier? Of course! Not only is all the staff great but the resources that are available to me at any given time are tremendous. There are online resources, magazines, and books to help keep all of Fontbonne’s fashion students on top of trends and changes in the fashion industry.

In your experience, what has been the most beneficial thing about Jack C. Taylor Library? All of the help from the library staff and all of the online resources such as the Worth Global Style Network that Fontbonne provides free of charge.

Thank you, Josh!

Summer Reading

Summer is a season to savor the weather, eat healthy and locally grown produce, and enjoy a good book. Jack C. Taylor Library has what you’re looking for to enhance any of your summer plans.

All you have to do is search our Online Catalog!

If gardening is your thing, check out The Week-By-Week Vegetable Gardener’s Handbook for a lesson on how to time your planting for the best results. Or maybe you want to garden, but have limited space. Take a look at All New Square Foot Gardening. Just a beginner? We have something for you too! Gardening All-in-One for Dummies.

During the summer, many want to get in shape and make up for the forced hibernation of the long winter months. What better way to get healthy than to eat your vegetables! Fast, Fresh & Green: More Than 90 Delicious Recipes for Veggie Lovers, Jamie’s Food Revolution, and Cooking Healthy Across America are all great resources for exploring a healthy culinary lifestyle.

Often, summer is the only time of year students and instructors have the opportunity to read a popular book just for fun. The Hunger Games or The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo are available, as well as the other two books in these trilogies. If you’re looking for something a little lighter, try Pride and Prejudice and Zombies!

Have a wonderful summer of reading!