New Service: Research Appointments

Students can now get personalized, in-depth research assistance by making an appointment to meet one-on-one with an ARC librarian. Research appointments are perfect for re-entry students who may not have done academic research in years as well as for new students who are unprepared for college level research. They are also perfect for instructors who would like to get the benefits of having a class attend a library orientation but don’t want to commit a class period to visiting the library. If that’s the case, recommend that your students make a research appointment or visit a drop in orientation. You might even offer the student extra credit. Your students will learn to use library resources and you will get a significant decrease in papers citing some guy who wrote something and put it on the Internet. You and your students can find out more on the library’s website. Just click on the research appointment link under “Ask-a-librarian.”

Library Faculty Workshop:
Blowing Sh*t Up with Your Mind

Flex Credit: 2 hours
Presenters: ARC Librarians
Location: Library Research Lab
Join us for an encore presentation of this library sponsored flex activity, this Friday, from 2-4 p.m. in the library’s research lab. You’ll learn to detonate small objects using only the previously untapped power of your own mind. This activity meets ARC Goals 1, 2, 3, 4 and state PD guidelines A, B, C.

Ever since I learned to blow things up with my mind, classroom management is a breeze! Thank you, ARC librarians!
- Hugh Howard
GIS/Geography/Earth Science
The ARC Library: it’s not just for students any more!

Reading Recommendations from ARC Faculty

Rod Siegfried
English

Ever think some people might not be as smart as your houseplants? Michael Pollan’s The Botany of Desire will make you realize you were probably right. Further, you’ll see that some plants are so genetically smart that they are using us as much as we are using them. Pollan, an entertaining writer and an imaginative botanist, takes us on an odyssey through the worlds of four domesticated species: the apple, the tulip, marijuana, and the potato. Mmmm, the sweetness of the apple, which includes the strange but true story of the legendary Johnny Appleseed. Behold the beauty of the tulip, which for a time in the 17th Century held an entire country in its spell. Hey, man, the intoxication of marijuana, dude! And our power over nature is demonstrated by a genetically modified potato that gives us the same perfect, golden McDonald’s fry every time—though, by the way, it’s labeled a pesticide by the FDA. The author manages with this book a feat that rarely happens—a science book that can keep even English majors riveted to the page.

David McCusker
Library

What to do When the Russians Come: A Survivor’s Guide by Robert Conquest and Jon White

Unlike some things that appear in Chimes, I am not making this up. This is a real book, published in 1984. You can buy it used on Amazon, or contact me to borrow the library’s copy (One of the editions has a picture of the Statue of Liberty with tears streaming down her face; if you do decide to buy, contact the seller to see if they have that edition available). In addition to practical tips (“If you at present perform a desk job or follow some other sedentary occupation, it is vital that you make yourself fit and ready for hard manual labor”), the guide offers predictions for how various professions will fare under the yoke of Soviet rule. The entry for Academic begins, “When universities reopen after the crisis, student numbers will have gone down. Some will be dead, some in prison, some in the partisan movement.” Great, no retro check. The bad news doesn’t stop there, “Departmental infighting... will become a bloodsport, the losers being consigned to the ranks of bricklayers, coal miners, and washroom attendants, if lucky.”