Henderson Library

The Zach S. Henderson Library is a major academic resource for the campus, with its extensive collections of academic books and journals, government publications, special book and manuscript collections, and links to networked information resources in various electronic formats.

The Henderson Library is centrally located on campus in a four-story building constructed in 1975 and renovated in 2008. The Library offers one of the most extensive operating schedules of any academic library in the state of Georgia. During the fall and spring academic terms, the Library is open for 143 of the 168 hours in each week to provide access to the Library’s electronic resources, book and periodical collections, reserve reading collections, individual and collaborative study areas, and 400+ computers including laptops and iPads.

As of July 2014, the Library's collections contained 649,338 bound volumes; 896,632 microform units; and 773,206 government documents. The Library maintains subscriptions to 426 serial and periodicals titles, and 47,862 electronic journals. In addition to the extensive collections in paper and microform, the Library has a large set of information materials in electronic format, including full-text copies of articles from thousands of academic periodicals and newspapers. These electronic resources are accessible from any Internet-connected computer.

The Library also provides access to many standard software applications in the areas of word processing, spreadsheets, database management, programming languages, and graphic design. Other programs, more directly related to specific curriculum-based needs for designated courses, are also available.

The Library offers the Discover search tool that provides a single search box for simultaneously searching the Library’s catalog and many databases. Searches begin with materials available in Henderson Library, but they can be expanded beyond the Library’s collections for more comprehensive results. It has been referred to as a Google search for research materials. Access to the Library’s catalog is available using a separate search box, and it is part of a combined catalog for the University System of Georgia, making an additional three million book titles and thousands of academic journals available within four days of a request. The Library is a full participant in the GALILEO project, Georgia’s statewide library sponsored by the University System of Georgia, providing more than 200 major databases and thousands of academic journals in full-text format, as well as rapid interlibrary loans across the state. Computer stations in the Library that access GALILEO also have access to other library catalogs and databases located throughout the world.

Digital Commons@Georgia Southern is an open access digital collection implemented by the Library to collect and disseminate the intellectual and creative output of the University's faculty, staff and students. Contributions come from all over campus and include theses/dissertations, conference proceedings, research publications, brochures, and newsletters. Besides housing our University's scholarship and creative works, Digital Commons has the capacity to publish online journals and manage conferences. The site also hosts SelectedWorks web pages for our faculty, which are profiles that highlight faculty publications and achievements. All these features of the repository help to expand the visibility and influence of Georgia Southern University to outside academic communities by making publications more readily available on the open web.

The Henderson Library’s administration actively seeks comments and suggestions concerning any aspect of its operations and collections. The Dean of the Library is available to meet with any member of the academic community to discuss the resources of the Library or its connections to other information networks and services throughout the world.