Welcome to the AURARIA LIBRARY

This self-guided tour will introduce you to the most important materials, services, and spaces available at the Auraria Library. If you have questions or need support at any time, library staff are happy to help at the Ask Us Desk or online via chat.

You'll need a computer or smartphone to complete the tour as the library website is a key part of the library. You can use any of the computers in the library or connect to the Wi-Fi on your device.

Using the Library Spaces

This section focuses on useful spaces in the library as well as technology and tools you can use. At the first floor Ask Us Desk, you can check out a range of helpful items. Some can go home with you, while others are for use while you're in the building.

1. The first floor of the library is collaborative, which means it's okay to talk and work in groups. There are several study alcoves on the south side of the library and many tables and workspaces, as well as three computer labs. **Explore the first floor and write down what you might use it for**.

2. Wi-Fi hotspots, laptops, graphing calculators, dry erase markers, and cell phone chargers are some of the most popular items checked out from the Ask Us Desk. **How might these items be useful?**

3. Find the glass display case near the Ask Us Desk containing even more items to check out—including many anatomical models. **Which of these items do you find surprising?**

4. The second floor of the library is the designated quiet area. It has most of our print collection, the Special Collections, and study tables. Explore the second floor (there are three staircases and also an elevator near the west entrance). **What do you think is different about the second floor compared to the first?**

5. The library has study rooms on both the first and second floors you can reserve for solo study sessions and group projects. **How can you reserve a study room?** (hint: library.auraria.edu)

Searching for a Particular Title

The library's website is the gateway to most of our resources, as 90% of our collections are online. You will need a computer or smartphone to complete this section. To login to a library computer, use your student ID number as your username and your last name as your password. If you have any trouble, visit the Ask Us Desk on the first floor.

Our library has both print books and electronic books—you can search the books in the library's collection using the Start My Research box on the library's homepage. (library.auraria.edu)

6. Try searching for the book *Black Feminist Thought: Knowledge, Consciousness, and the Politics of Empowerment*. This book is available in print and as an eBook. **Why might it be useful to have access to both print and eBook copies of a book?**

7. For a print book, the Start My Research results will list a call number. A call number is a string of letters and numbers that represents what the book is about and tells you where to find it on the shelves (example: E185.86.H7417 2004). ***What is the call number for Black Feminist Thought?***

8. Use the call number to find *Black Feminist Thought* on the second floor. The "Find It" feature in Start My Research shows you where the book should be located. **What kinds of books are on the shelf near *Black Feminist Thought*?** (It's okay if *Black Feminist Thought* is not on the shelf as it will not affect the topic of the books around this call number.)

Tip! While our library has many titles, you might need a book we don't have. If you can't find what you're looking for in Start My Research, you have several options to borrow it from other libraries via the Prospector and interlibrary loan services. To learn more about these services, visit the library website, the Ask Us Desk, or chat with a librarian.

Looking for Information for a Research Assignment

In addition to finding items by title, Start My Research lets you search for almost everything in the library's collection—including books, scholarly articles, newspapers/magazines, and streaming media—using keywords (terms that describe aspects of your topic).

9. Imagine you are writing a research paper about the role of public libraries in a democratic society. In Start My Research, search the terms: **public libraries** and **democracy.** Review the first 10 search results (you can select "Details" to see more information about a result). **Which of the first 10 search results have the most potential to support this research topic and why?**

10. Start My Research also offers filters you can adjust from the results page. The **Content Type** filter shows you what types of information sources are available in your search results list. Using your search results page for public libraries and democracy, browse the options under the Content Type filter. **List two content types you think would be useful when writing a research paper and one you were surprised to see.**

11. The **Publication Date** heading in the filters section limits your search results by when the item was published. **Why might adjusting the publication date of your results be useful when searching for information?**

12. In your list of results, each item has four icons next to its title: a **bookmark**, a **link**, a **quotation mark**, and an **envelope**. Each of these icons provides a different way to keep track of a search result you've found. Circle the feature you would use to keep track of results you would like to save for later.

Bookmark: Save the result in a temporary folder you can email to yourself. Remember to send your list when you're done as it will clear after 20 minutes of inactivity.

Link: Create a permalink that you can bookmark, save, or share.

Quotation Mark: Generate a citation for the result. You can select which citation style you would like to use.

Envelope: Email yourself the result with a link and a citation.

Looking for Help? Ask Us!

Depending on how you prefer to communicate and how quickly you need a response, there are many ways you can get help from the library. The Ask Us Desk on the first floor is one place to get help. Go back to the Library's homepage http://library.auraria.edu/ and select "Ask Us" in the top menu to see the others.

13. If you needed help printing in the library, how would you ask for help? (Circle all that apply.)
    - Chat online
    - Text
    - Make an appointment
    - Call
    - Email
    - Ask Us Desk
    - Search the FAQs

14. How would you prefer to contact a librarian if you have questions about using the library or doing research?

Library Tour Notes