Reading (or resource) lists are key learning and teaching tools. An accurate, stimulating and well-organised list can enhance the student’s experience of a course of study, providing valuable guidance based upon the lecturer’s knowledge of the subject area and facilitating independent learning.

ReadingLists@Dundee is a new service which enables a lecturer to gather together information on a wide variety of resources including books, chapters within books, articles from journals, videos and webpages, and to present this in a list. The lecturer can organise the list to reflect the way the module will be taught (e.g. week by week or by topic), can indicate the relative importance of individual items (e.g. essential or recommended), and provide annotations to guide the student. The list can be accessed from the module pages on My Dundee, or from the website http://readinglists.dundee.ac.uk/ with the ability to search by module code or title, or browse by College/School.

The software is easy for lecturers to use, employing simple drag and drop functions, and full training and support are provided by the LLC College liaison teams. Published lists are reviewed by acquisitions staff in the Library and they will purchase newer editions of textbooks and order items not already in stock. If an item is not available electronically as an e-book or e-journal, or there are few copies of the printed version in stock, single chapters of books or articles from journals can be digitised by the Library. These digitised readings can then be integrated into the list for ease of access.

Links to the Library catalogue allow students to easily determine the availability of hardcopy resources and place requests on items which are out on loan or held at a site they don’t usually visit, and to instantly access electronic resources whether they are studying on or off campus.

The service is being phased in throughout academic year 2014/2015 so not all module resource lists will be available at first, but we hope that both lecturers and students will come to regard it as a vital link in the chain.

If you want to know more about ReadingLists@Dundee, please contact your LLC College liaison team or email readinglists@dundee.ac.uk.
Digitised Readings are moving…

…to a Reading List near you!

Many lecturers have had book chapters and journal articles digitised by the Library & Learning Centre in compliance with the University’s Copyright Licensing Agency HE Photocopying and Scanning Licence. This material, recommended reading for their modules, was previously made available in a Digitised Readings folder in My Dundee. From now on it will be integrated into the Reading List for that module. The list is linked to the module pages on My Dundee, meaning students enjoy easy access to the digitised readings alongside other content.

Given that this service is being phased in, some Reading Lists may only have digitised content in them for the start of the new semester. As the lecturer works on populating the full list, digitised content can be moved to the most appropriate section – Reading Lists can be arranged week by week or by topic.

To read a digitised article/chapter/extracts, simply click on the big blue button marked Online Resource. Clicking on the title of the item will also open the PDF.

PDFs can be viewed, printed or downloaded – but only while the module is actually running.

Any lecturer who wishes to add digitised content to a Reading List should contact the LLC digitisation team at llc-digitisation@dundee.ac.uk. The appropriate Subject Support Team can assist too. In both cases we will need a module code, student numbers, start and finish dates for the module, and details of the extract required.

E-Resources

Over the last year we have seen a number of significant new resources purchased through the SHEDL consortium, for the whole of Scottish Higher Education. These include the American Society of Mechanical Engineers collection of journals (25 titles from year 2000 to present), plus the ASME Conference Proceedings. Additionally we have gained access to over 180 current journals from the publisher Brill - covering subjects in the Humanities, Law and Sciences, plus the current journals from the Medical & Life Sciences publisher Karger.

Additional titles available to the University of Dundee from the publisher Nature include Nature Communications, and Nature Reviews Microbiology. Finally, the abstracting and indexing database, Philosopher’s Index, is now available as an online service via EBSCO.

Changes and improvements to the Library Search service have been taking place over the Summer period, making the service more easily tailored to the subject interests of the users. Further details about this will be available on the Library website, as changes are rolled out.

We now have access to a new, multidisciplinary collection of over 130,000 ebooks from a wide range of academic publishers, through the Ebsco ebook Academic Collection. Former users of Ebrary ebooks will find much of the same, most highly used content is now available through the new collection, which has an additional 40,000 or so titles. Common browsers are supported, and mobile platforms such as Android and iOS. Books can be read online and the majority downloaded for offline reading and printing.

Many books are now available in electronic format, and the Library does its best to buy electronic versions of books, where they are available to purchase. We buy content from a number of ebook suppliers, including DawsonEra, EBL, Askews & Holts, MyILibrary, EbscoHost, Springer, Cambridge University Press, Safari, JISC Historic books, University Press Scholarship, Palgrave, ScienceDirect, Sage and Wiley. Some of these ebooks have been purchased, others are leased for a period of time, some are available for short term rental to individuals and some are titles within a package. They can be read online (with an internet connection), and many can be downloaded to your PC and other devices. Some books can only be downloaded for a limited period, and others may let you keep a copy. We are constantly working to try and get you the best content on the best platforms.

To find out more, have a look at our ebooks pages at http://www.dundee.ac.uk/library/search/e-books/. When you are searching in the catalogue or in Library Search, you will come across ebooks of interest. Click on the links, and try them. On campus, access is often immediate, if not off-campus you need to enter your University username and password. If you get stuck, refer back to the instructions beside the url, or our help pages at http://www.dundee.ac.uk/library/search/e-resource-access/.

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From the above link you are directed to the standard University login page. Sign in using your University network username and password. You can then create your own user profile within lynda.com specifying your interests, or be notified of new additions or updated material and keep track of the courses you complete. You can also print out your own completion certificates. There’s even a tutorial on ‘How to use lynda.com course’ for you to follow.

lynda.com – Facts

- 579 Business courses providing 24,217 video tutorials,
- 488 Design courses, giving access to 25,088 video tutorials
- Searchable by the software name/product, subject topic or authors.
- You can arrange your search results to suit your own level of understanding e.g. Beginner, Intermediate or Advanced levels.

Don’t miss out, check out lynda.com today!


If you need more information about how this effects you, the LLC Research Support Team can help. During International Open Access Week, 20th to 24th October, at various locations across the University, we’ll be hosting a series of events which aim to inform and provide support for staff affected by this policy. For more information please email Discovery@dundee.ac.uk.

“Ask the Library”

“Ask the Library” is an online enquiry service from the Library and Learning Centre. Click the “Ask the Library icon” on the Library and Learning Centre homepage to start a live chat with a member of library staff. We can support you with help on enquiries related to our collections, online resources and services. “Ask the Library” is proving to be a valuable addition to our existing range of enquiry services, with chats so far coming in from distance learners in Canada, Ghana and Saudi Arabia, as well as library patrons closer to home.
Ninewells Library gets a new name – and goes 24/7

The Library & Learning Centre at Ninewells has been renamed The Robertson Trust Medical Library & Learning Centre. The Robertson Trust were a major donor to the project to redevelop the School of Medicine’s education facilities at Ninewells, and the new name recognises and reflects their generosity of support to medical education and to the University in general.

Over the last few months the Robertson Trust Library has been trialling 24/7 access using the NHS swipe card system, and has now extended the trial to all staff and students of the University. 24-hour access to the Library at Ninewells means that you can study whenever you want, use IT & printing facilities and access the books and journals held in the Library at any time, night or day.

In order to access the Robertson Trust Medical Library outside the staffed hours, you will need to register your University ID card with us so that you can be added to the NHS database of users. To register, please email Ninewells-Library@dundee.ac.uk with your name, the School or Unit you belong to (or, if you are a student, the title of the programme you are studying) along with the code on the reverse of your University ID card. See the image above to help you recognise the code we need.

We hope you will make use of the improved facilities at Ninewells – it's open for everyone!