

# Florida A&M University Libraries

Tallahassee Florida 32307

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## LIBRARY RESOURCES IN SUPPORT OF AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES

### Collections

Library resources and services are sufficient to achieve the goals and outcomes of the African American Studies program. The [University Libraries](#) provide collections of current books, periodicals, and pertinent reference materials, which are readily accessible to students and are sufficient in scope to support the African American studies curriculum. The Samuel H. Coleman Memorial Library (the main library) and branch libraries provide traditional print and non-print resources, electronic access to full-text, bibliographic and abstracting databases, and numerous online and traditional services. The African American studies curriculum is directly supported by the African American Collection, a collection of over 16,000 volumes related to African American life and culture. The African American Collection contains several limited editions by [Dr. Martin Luther King](#) and renowned African American writers such as [Maya Angelou](#), [Richard Wright](#), and [Zora Neale Hurston](#). Also included in the collection is one of only 10,000 copies of the [GOAT: A Tribute to Muhammad Ali](#). In addition to the African American Collection, African American Studies is also supported through interdisciplinary collections in the arts & humanities and the social sciences.

The following table shows library holdings targeted for use by the general campus and community population, as well as holdings targeted to support the African American Studies curriculum.

Library Resources	General	African American Studies
Volumes	990,981	29,851
Monograph (books)	621,645	16,942
Microforms	458,365	2007
Media	76,832	205
Electronic books	59,225	999
Serial/Periodical Titles	52,167	358
Electronic Journals (full-text)	58,824	214
Electronic databases	314	72

In addition to library resources cited above, FAMU is a depository for United States government documents. This collection contains more than 6,000 full-text electronic titles and 160,539 print volumes. Of this number, 2,579 print documents and 522 electronic government documents are related to African American Studies.

The University maintains borrowing agreements and memberships that mutually enhance resources availability for FAMU and other Florida learning communities. Partnerships are with the [State University Libraries of Florida](#), the [Florida College System Libraries](#) and the [State Library of Florida](#). Memberships are with the [Florida Center for Library Automation \(FCLA\)](#), the [Florida Distance Learning Consortium](#) and the [Southern Regional Educational Board \(SREB\)](#). Florida public postsecondary college and university libraries provide services directly and indirectly to students and faculty of State of Florida postsecondary institutions. Approximately 60,929 volumes held by the other 39 Florida public postsecondary institutions supplement the FAMU African American collection. The following information details the additional resources and services available to FAMU students and faculty.

<b>Libraries</b>	<b>General Resources</b>	<b>African American Studies</b>
State University System of Florida	15,257,337	46,417
Florida College System	3,972,388	14,512

Full onsite and reciprocal borrowing privileges to students and faculty at all 39 Florida public institutions of postsecondary education is provided. Service includes daily document delivery via statewide courier among nearly 300 libraries in the [Florida Library Information Network \(FLIN\)](#). FAMU students and faculty have access to the courier service for interlibrary loan transactions.

Faculty and students also have access to the [Publication of Archival, Library & Museum Materials \(PALMM\)](#) Collection. This collection is a cooperative initiative of the public Universities of Florida to provide digital access to unique archival resources for research and scholarship. The PALMM Collection includes over 384 records related to African American studies. Included in the PALMM collection are 104 records for the FAMUAN, the FAMU student newspaper, issues date back to 1959.

### **Library Budget and Expenditures for African American Collections**

	<b>2004-2005</b>	<b>2005-2006</b>	<b>2006-2007</b>	<b>2007-2008</b>	<b>2008-2009</b>
University Library Budget	\$1,957,365.00	\$1,941,418.00	\$1,941,418.00	\$1,879,555.00	\$1,879,555.00
<b>African American Studies Expenditures</b>					
Monographs (Books)	\$42,175.25	\$37,344.21	\$26,604.90	\$29,679.27	\$54,180.94
Journals	\$1,107.00	\$1,152.00	\$1,216.00	\$1,277.00	\$1,358.00
Databases	\$1,470.00	\$36,015.00	\$1,945.00	\$1,175.00	\$31,937.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$44,752.25</b>	<b>\$74,511.21</b>	<b>\$29,765.90</b>	<b>32,131.27</b>	<b>87,475.94</b>

In addition to the funds provided by the University, *Ethnic Newswatch*, an electronic resource in support of African American studies is funded by the Florida Center for Library Automation at an annual cost of approximately \$ 35,498.

## Access to Collections and Services

Students, faculty and staff have access to collections, resources and services 24 hours a day, seven days a week, either through the 113.25 hours that the main library is open or through the library web page. Through the University Libraries' web page (<http://www.famu.edu/?a=library>), faculty and students have full access to the FAMU [library catalog](#) on or off campus, and the library catalogs of the [State of Florida University](#) and [Community College](#) libraries. Online resources and services are available within the libraries, from campus computers, in faculty offices, and from residence halls. Off-campus access is also available 24 hours a day to authenticated users (students, faculty, and staff). Support services such as instruction, interlibrary loans, loan renewals, course reserves, reference assistance, instruction, and distance learning services are also accessible from the web page.

## Services

FAMU Libraries provide a full range of traditional and innovative library services. Users have access to reference services via local and toll free telephone, electronic mail, [online chat service \(AskALibrarian\)](#), and fax. Services enable users to access and to use information resources in the libraries and from remote locations. The Information Commons, in Coleman Library, allows users to access main library services from one common area. Several Library services are available from this service point. Services include borrowing privileges, interlibrary loan, course reserves, reference and research services, and systems support services.

### Borrowing

### Privileges

Students, faculty, and staff have borrowing privileges at the FAMU Libraries, and reciprocal borrowing privileges to the 39 public universities and colleges in Florida. Borrowers may view and renew items that are currently checked out through the online catalog.

### Interlibrary Loan

Students, faculty, and staff who are currently enrolled and engaged in academic research have Interlibrary Loan (ILL) borrowing privileges to the 39 public universities and colleges in Florida and to other libraries globally. Requests may be initiated in person or through the online catalog, which along with reciprocal borrowing and the provision of licensed databases, provides access to materials that the University does not own.

### Course Reserves

Print and electronic materials may be placed on reserve at the Libraries. The reserve service provides a central and convenient location for students to retrieve materials. These materials are owned by the University or come from the private collections of faculty who place materials on reserve for enrolled students.

### Reference and Research Services

On site and virtual reference/research services are provided. Reference Services include individual research/consultation, the provision of electronic and print [subject guides](#), and the provision of online [tutorials](#). Reference librarians provide a variety of instructional services to

meet the information literacy needs of students, faculty, staff, administrators, and the community at large.

### Instruction/Information Literacy

The University Libraries provide competent, quality, and timely instruction through a variety of instructional services. Information is delivered through informal and point of use instruction, individual and group instruction, formal orientations and literacy sessions, orientation to new student groups, subject specific scheduled workshops, printed handouts, subject guides and online tutorials. Instruction is provided to local users as well as to distance learners. Library users should be able to differentiate between trustworthy and untrustworthy sources, and have the skills to use resources independently. Instruction (information literacy) sessions are designed to equip users with the skills needed to locate, evaluate, and use library information resources and services. Formal literacy instruction is based upon goals as defined by classroom faculty. These classes are held in state-of-the-art classrooms, which allow hands-on interactive instruction. Library instruction is based upon guidelines published by the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Guidelines for Instruction Programs in Academic Libraries.

### Liaison Program

Librarians liaison with all academic units to assure that the collection supports defined curricular goals and that adequate services, including instruction are provided. The Department of History, Political Science, Geography, and African American Studies has appointed a representative to the Library Collection Development Committee. The representative works in collaboration with library faculty to evaluate, select, and purchase resources recommended for the African American Studies program.

### Systems Support Services

The Systems Department provides and maintains 250 public computers along with software, hardware and support services necessary for providing and using information resources. Computers are configured to provide access to the libraries' web page and online catalog. Computers are also configured with various types of production software allowing users' access to the Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, OneNote, InfoPath, Groove, and Access), Write-N-Cite, Course Compass, SciFinder Scholar, and Census Tract. Designated computer areas make it possible for patrons to save documents temporarily to a designated hard drive. As a result of customer service surveys and analysis, several additional services have been made available. Separate email stations have been installed near the Information Commons Desk. A Microtek 9800XL flatbed scanner that provides scanning of photos and multiple document formats and sizes is available. A Print-N-Go station is available for patrons who need to print documents hurriedly and go. Computers have been placed in group study rooms and in the Jazzman's Café and Study Lounge. Library users can print to designated print stations. Computers are located on each floor of the main library and in all branch libraries. A help desk is staffed as part of the Information Commons to assist users with software applications and technology support. Helpdesk staff assists patrons with directional questions, laptop registration and circulation, referrals and resolution of computing and printing needs and issues.

## **Staff**

All Library and related personnel meet, or exceed minimal educational requirements as defined by ACRL. Librarians hold master's degrees from ALA accredited schools. Additionally, two faculty librarians have completed the advanced master's degree in library science; three faculty librarians have completed the specialists' degree in library science; five faculty librarians have completed master's degrees in other subject disciplines; and two faculty librarians have completed the Ph.D. degree in library science or information studies. The University employs 19.5 professional librarians. Support staff are also very well qualified, evidenced by 17 support staff holding bachelor's degrees, with many others nearing completion of the bachelor's degree.

## **Facilities**

All faculty and students have full access to the facilities of FAMU's Coleman Memorial Library, branch libraries, and reading rooms. These facilities more than adequately support faculty and student use of information technology for instruction, learning and research. Coleman Memorial Library occupies approximately 88,964 net square feet. Almost 20,000 additional square feet are available in the branch libraries and reading rooms. The University Libraries presently have a seating capacity of 834, including group study rooms, a student study lounge and cafe, and 20 graduate/faculty study carrels. The recent addition to Coleman Library also includes a state of the art information literacy classroom and teleconference rooms. All library facilities enjoy dense fiber optic wiring (one outlet for every 40 square feet of floor space) to the desktop. In addition to fiber wiring, much of the main library and its immediate grounds are wireless, enabling students and faculty convenient and generous access to the wireless network using their own supported laptops, or they may borrow one of 24 network-ready laptops from the Library Systems Department for use in the library.

The [Instructional Media Center \(IMC\)](#), of the Instructional Technology Division, is housed in the Coleman Library. The IMC contains two teleconference centers/distance learning classrooms, with a combined seating capacity of over 50 people, designed for both satellite teleconferencing and for mediated viewing. The IMC also contains an open computer laboratory, television services, graphics and production laboratory, and faculty development laboratory. Non-print resources and equipment are available for faculty to borrow and/or view.