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Touro College Libraries

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TOURO COLLEGE LIBRARIES

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 3 No.1

Fall 1996

From The Director

by Dr. Jacqueline A. Maxin

NEW ONLINE SERVICES

Since our last newsletter, the Libraries have implemented an online public access catalog (OPAC) and a HomePage on the World Wide Web. For details, please refer to the articles on this page.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

Tobi K. Adler, formerly at the Bensonhurst Main Facility, is now at Midtown in the newly formed position of Electronic Services Librarian. Dulce Maria Juarbe has joined our staff as Librarian at the Avenue D Facility, and Margaret Hamm has come aboard as the new Librarian at Bensonhurst. Jerome Goldstein is splitting his time as Librarian at both the Flushing and Forest Hills facilities. Yisrael Dubitsky is the new Assistant Librarian at the Midwood Facility, and Lieb Klein is the new Assistant Librarian at the Boro Park Main Facility.

The Main Campus Harlem has had a change in personnel with the addition of Amy M. Thatcher as Library Assistant and Dorothy I. Applewhite as Library Aide. Marvin Singletary has transferred from the Midwood Facility to the Main Campus Midtown to work on development of the OPAC. Deborah Alvarez at Avenue D has been promoted from Library Aide to Library Assistant.

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The Touro College Libraries' Online Catalog

by Evelyn W. Behar, MLS - Main Campus Midtown

In July 1996, the first records were entered into the Libraries' online public access catalog (OPAC). By the end of October, the database had grown to over 1,600 records. These include both new acquisitions and records for items that were received during the fifteen months prior to the OPAC becoming operational. Besides monographs, the database includes nonprint media, such as CD-ROMs, diskettes, and audiotapes.

Records in the OPAC can be retrieved minutes after they are downloaded from OCLC, an international bibliographic utility. The OPAC is accessible at computer workstations located at the various Libraries. You can also Telnet to it via "library.touro.edu"; login as "college." The OPAC can be searched in several ways, including author, title, subject, and keyword.



The Libraries' HomePage

by Tobi K. Adler, MLS MA

The Libraries' Home or Web Page has been available since June 1996. The Page provides information about Library services, and policy and help guides. It also has a section that organizes selected Internet sites by subject area and provides direct links to them. The Page is accessible at computer workstations located at the various Touro College Libraries. The Page can also be accessed from any Web browser via "http://www.touro.edu /library." Suggestions and comments are welcomed and appreciated.

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Ten Tips for Taking Tests

by Elaine Braithwaite, MLS-Main Campus Harlem

During your college career, you will take around one hundred or more tests, including quizzes, mid-terms, finals, and standardized exams such as the GREs, LSATs, GMATs, etc. There is an art to taking tests well. Learning how to do so will bolster your self-confidence and ease much of the stress that test-taking brings. Here are ten tips that can be successfully applied to most test-taking situations.

1) **Develop skills to control anxiety.** Use your imagination to create positive scenarios. See yourself calm and in control. Visualize yourself as a winner!

2) **Learn to relax.** There are many books, articles and workshops that teach relaxation techniques. Here is one technique. Tighten and relax your muscles, one group at a time. For example, tighten your toes for ten seconds and then relax them. Do the same for your legs, abdomen, back, etc. Breathe deeply and slowly throughout this exercise. If you practice relaxation in this fashion regularly, you will be able to reach a relaxed state quickly.

3) **Choose a good place to study.** It should be well lit and free of clutter. It is a good idea to select a location away from the TV, radio, stereo and telephone. Have all the things you need to study, such as a dictionary, thesaurus, pens, pencils, and reading lamp. The library is an excellent place to study!

4) **Take good notes in class.** Ask lots of questions in class to clarify any information that you do not understand. Form a study group with two or three other students. Cramming just before an exam is not recommended because you can only remember a few facts in your short term memory. Preparation and study take time, but the results are worth it.

5) **Develop good personal habits.** Take stock of your life. Set goals and priorities. Get plenty of rest. Eat well-balanced meals, especially before the exam.

6) **Be prepared.** Bring pencils, extra pens, a ruler or anything else that you know you'll need for your exam. This is not the time to rely on the "kindness of strangers" unless it's an emergency!

Finding Scholarships Online at No Cost

by Timothy V Johnson, MLS-Main Campus Midtown

A common problem among college students is the lack of money. Consequently, a frequently heard question at the Reference Desk is, "Do you have any information on scholarships and loans?" In addition to numerous print sources, there are several relatively recent sources on the World Wide Web.

The first stop for the cybersurfing collegiate should be the *Financial Aid Information Page* (<http://www.finaid.org/finaid.html>). This page is maintained by Mark Kantrowitz, the author of *The Prentice Hall Guide to Scholarships and Fellowships for Math and Science Students*, and sponsored by the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA). It contains a wealth of data including scholarships for specific populations, ie. women, minorities, athletes, veterans, etc; a FAQ page, information on loans, a bibliography of print sources, a link to the financial offices of various colleges and universities, a financial aid calculator and other financial aid related issues.

In addition, it provides a link to *FastWEB* (<http://web.studentservices.com/fastweb>). *FastWEB* is the first free scholarship tracking service on the Internet. The service allows users to search a database of more than 180,000 private scholarships. Through the web page the student enters information about his/herself, such as income, interests, major, etc. and that information is matched against possible scholarships. Most importantly, the student can log in to a mailbox to check if any newly available scholarships for which he/she is qualified has been added to the database.

According to *The New York Times* (8-12-96; p. A12) one student found 15 potential scholarships within minutes, including a \$1,500 award that she eventually won. She commented, "Compared to hunting through scholarship books, it was incredibly quick and easy."

Finally, for those who are interested in government information, there is the Department of Education pamphlet *Student Guide* (http://www.ed.gov/prog_info/SFA/StudentGuide). This site gives money-related tips on Perkins loans and other US government programs.

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NEW LOCATIONS

The Avenue D Facility Library has moved from 36 to 24 Avenue D in Manhattan. The Boro Park Main Facility Library has moved from 47th Street to the COJO Building at 13th Avenue and 53rd Street in Brooklyn.



Librarian as Researcher

by Idelle Rudman, MLS-Brighton Beach Main Facility

As a Librarian, I often do information searches for students and faculty. I have always found this kind of library work interesting and fun. Now, I am in the position of doing this kind of reference work for myself.

I am pursuing a masters degree at the Touro Graduate School of Jewish Studies, based in the Women's Division and headed by Dr. Michael Shmidman. A fund established by Dr. Livia Straus, in her brother's memory, has resulted in a named professorship, the Victor J. Selmanowitz Professor of Modern Jewish History, held by Professor Monty Penkower. Under Prof. Penkower's supervision, I am doing research into American Jewish family history. Specifically, the research is into the Selmanowitz family background, from the time of the family's arrival in America and their acculturation here with the passing of the generations.

The focus of the research is into the figure of Rabbi Abraham Isaac Selmanowitz, a well-known figure at Yeshiva University and in Williamsburgh, a major center of Orthodox Jewry in the first half of the Twentieth Century. Rabbi Selmanowitz is well-remembered by his former students and by those who knew him. Our own Shaindy Kurzmann, Librarian at the Women's Division, is a member of this family.

It's fun being a student again. A big advantage is my membership in the Association of Jewish Libraries. I am just a phone call or e-mail message away from help from my peers. All in all, I am experiencing the best of two worlds. As a librarian, I am doing the work I love and as a grad student, I am having a wonderful experience.

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7) **Use test-taking strategies during the exam.** Look over the entire exam before starting it. Read the directions carefully. Make note of how much each section of the exam is worth in proportion to the grade given, and budget your time accordingly. Don't spend 45 minutes of an hour exam on 20 one-point short answer questions when the essay is worth 80% of the grade! If you finish the exam early, review your answers before handing it in.

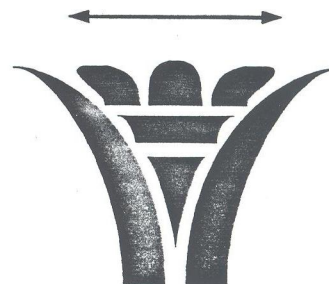
8) **Try to eliminate choices when answering multiple choice questions.** You can usually eliminate one choice as just plain incorrect. Often you will have to choose between two similar choices. Use your best judgement as to which choice is the most correct one.

9) **Study the definitions of these words and watch for them as they appear in an essay exam:**

Analyze	Explain
Compare	Illustrate
Contrast	Interpret
Criticize	Outline
Define	Prove
Describe	Relate
Discuss	State
Enumerate	Summarize
Evaluate	Trace

10) **Outline your ideas, including your introduction and conclusion, before beginning to write your essay.** Writing a quick outline will help you organize your thoughts and clarify your ideas. The result will be a well-thought out essay that makes a good impression.

Source: Ellis, David. Becoming a Master Student, 6/e. Rapid City, SD: College Survival, Inc., 1991.



DIRECTORY OF LIBRARIES

Main Campus Midtown

Timothy V Johnson, MLS, Chief Librarian

timothyj@tact.touro.edu

27-33-West 23rd Street, New York, NY 10010

tel 212-463-0400, ext. 321; fax 212-627-9144

Library Hours: M-Th 9 am-8pm
F 9 am-2 pm

Main Campus Women's Division

Shaindy Kurzmann, MLS, Librarian

kurz@tact.touro.edu

160 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10016

tel 212-213-2230, ext. 119; fax 212-683-3281

Library Hours: M 9:30 am-7 pm
Tu 9:30 am-6:30 pm
W 9:30 am-6 pm
Th 9:30 am-6:30 pm
F 9:30 am-2 pm

Main Campus Harlem

Elaine Braithwaite, MLS, Librarian

elaine@tact.touro.edu

240 East 123rd Street, New York, NY 10035

tel 212-722-1575, ext. 297; fax 212-348-6971

Library Hours: Su 11 am-3 pm
M-Th 9 am-5 pm
F 9 am-2 pm

Avenue D Facility

Dulce Maria Juarbe, MLS, Librarian

dulcej@tact.touro.edu

24 Avenue D, Room 104, New York, NY 10002

tel 212-253-7627; fax 212-387-8876

Library Hours: M-Th 10 am-4 pm, 6-9 pm
F 9 am-2 pm

Midwood Facility

Chaya Drillman, MLS, Chief Librarian

chayad@tact.touro.edu

1602 Avenue J, Brooklyn, NY 11230

tel 718-252-7800, ext. 226; fax 718-253-9455

Library Hours: Su 10 am-3 pm*
M-Th 9 am-5:30 pm,
5:30 pm-10 pm**
F 9 am-2 pm

* Except July & August

** Except August

Kings Highway Computer Center Facility

Bashe Simon, MLS, MA, Chief Librarian

simonb@tact.touro.edu

1103 Kings Highway, Brooklyn, NY 11229

tel 718-336-6471; fax 718-336-7001

Library Hours: Su 9 am-2pm*
M-Th 9 am-9 pm
* Fall & Spring semesters only.

Bensonhurst Main Facility

Margaret Hamm, MLS, Librarian

margareh@tact.touro.edu

7914 Bay Parkway, Brooklyn, NY 11214

tel 718-236-1538; fax 718-256-2603

Library Hours: M-Th 10 am-4pm, 5 pm-8 pm*
* Fall & Spring semesters only.

Brighton Beach Main Facility

Idelle Rudman, MLS, Librarian

rudmani@tact.touro.edu

532 Neptune Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11224

tel 718-449-6160, ext. 118; fax 265-6413

Library Hours: Su 10 am-4 pm*
M-Th 10 am-8 pm
F 10 am-2 pm
* Fall & Spring semesters only.

Sunset Park Facility

Zenobia W. Wajadallie-Giles, MLS, Librarian

zenobiaw@tact.touro.edu

475 53rd Street, Brooklyn, NY 11220

tel 718-238-9395; fax 718-567-9166

Library Hours: M-Th 11:30 am-6:30 pm
F 9 am-2 pm

Boro Park Main Facility

Roberta Standish, MLS, Librarian

robertas@tact.touro.edu

1273 53rd Street, Brooklyn, NY 11219

tel 718-871-3779; fax 718-871-4072

Library Hours: Su 9 am-3 pm*
M 10 am-2 pm, 6-10 pm*
Tu 10 am-1 pm, 6-10pm*
W 6 pm-10 pm*
Th 10 am-2 pm
F 10 am-12 pm
* Fall & Spring semesters only.

Flushing Facility

Jerome Goldstein, MLS, Librarian

goldstj@tact.touro.edu

133-35 Roosevelt Avenue, Flushing, NY 11354

tel 718-353-6400; fax 718-353-8952

Library Hours: M 10 am-9 pm
Tu-Th 10 am-8 pm
F 10 am-2 pm

Forest Hills Facility

Jerome Goldstein, MLS, Librarian

goldstj@tact.touro.edu

71-02 113th Street, Forest Hills, NY 11375

tel 718-261-8783; fax 718-520-8170

Library Hours: M-Th 9 am-7 pm
F 9 am-11 am

School of Health Sciences Dix Hills

Blanche Cohn, Medical Librarian

blanchc@tact.touro.edu

135 Carman Road, Building 10, Dix Hills, NY 11746

tel 516-673-3200, ext. 224; fax 516-673-3432

Library Hours: Su 10 am-6 pm
M-Th 8 am- 10:30 pm
F 8 am-2:30 pm