

Volume 15

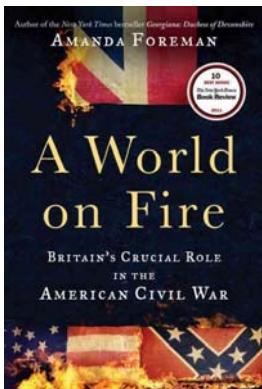
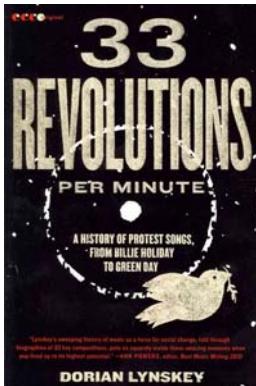
January 2012

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LIBRARY HOURS

Monday–Thursday
8:00 a.m. to midnight
Friday
8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.
Saturday
noon to 11:00 p.m.
Sunday
11:00 a.m. to midnight



LIBRARIAN'S NOTE

Welcome back to Geisel Library, which has received a major facelift during the break. Though there is still some work to be done, we have transformed the main level of the Library into the Learning Commons from the areas that once housed our Reference area, our online workstations and current periodicals collection. The new Learning Commons will include additional seating, new technologies for group learning, and most importantly, an Information Technology help desk for faculty and students. These expanded services will be of great benefit to our entire academic community and we are looking forward to seeing more students and faculty make use of our services. Also improved are our group study rooms and Library classroom which once again has been host to a record number of instructional sessions for our students. We expect all our new furniture and technology to be in place by late February, and we look forward to seeing you all here often. My best for the Spring semester!

NEWS & EVENTS

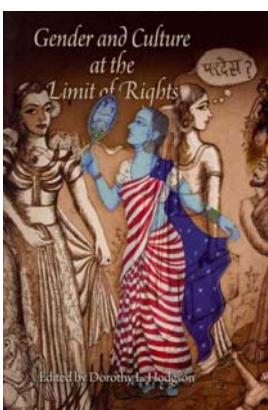
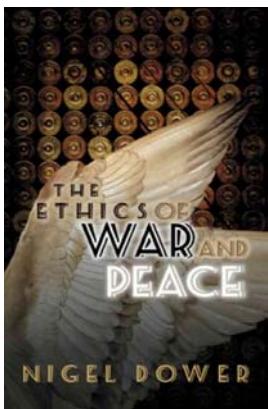
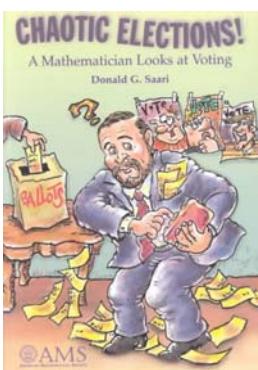
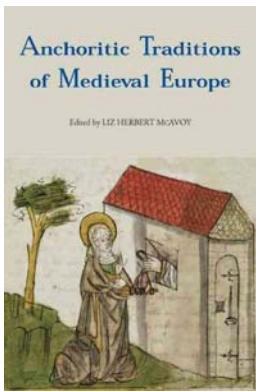
Introducing the Learning Commons

We're excited to report that Geisel Library is undergoing its first major renovation since the expansion of 1992. Several years of planning are now coming to fruition in the form of our new "Learning Commons", a transformation of the major public spaces on the library's main level. This redesign has two main objectives: (1) to create collaborative workspaces that will better accommodate group projects and group study, and (2) to better support the increasingly technology-based nature of modern research and class assignments. While we have great facilities, they were designed for a 1992 world of card catalogs, desktop computers, CD-ROM databases, and individual study. The new Learning Commons has been planned with the needs and preferences of modern students in mind.

Here are a few highlights:

- Most computer workstations will now comfortably accommodate two students, to facilitate working in pairs
- Two new four-person worktables will enable users to plug in their laptops and feed their screens onto a large monitor mounted on the wall
- Power outlets in nearly all new tables, for laptops and other electronic devices
- A color printer and two new scanners
- Two special "multimedia editing" workstations equipped with large monitors and the Adobe Creative Suite, to help students create multimedia projects
- Chairs and tables in the Reading Room that can easily be moved into informal clusters for small group discussion or study
- New armchairs in the Atrium with tablet arms on which users can rest their laptop computers or study materials
- Net seating capacity of the library will increase by over 100 seats

To better support user's technological needs, the Information Technology department will be transferring its Help operation into the library. The Reference Desk will be shifting to the Atrium, creating a triangle of service points on the main level. The new IT and Reference desks will soon be in place, and the Learning Commons has been repainted and re-carpeted. The new furniture and equipment should arrive in February, at which point the new space will be officially dedicated. We hope you come check out the new facilities and encourage your students to make use of them.



Shrinking the Reference Collection

To make way for the Learning Commons, the reference collection was downsized by 50% and relocated to the Main Level Stacks behind the new Reference Desk. Given our rapidly growing, easy-to-use [online reference collection](#), plus the decline in use of print reference materials, we decided that allocating an entire room to reference shelves was no longer the best use of valuable real estate. The former reference room will now become the library's primary computer and technology zone. But since the print reference collection still contains numerous invaluable resources, it will remain on the Main Level, easily accessible when reference librarians help patrons at the service desk.

The downsizing of the reference collection was a months-long collaborative effort among all of Geisel's librarians. The departmental liaison librarians weeded the reference books in their respective subject areas, while the remaining sections were reviewed title by title by the reference librarians. Most books that weren't retained in Reference were relocated either to the General Collection (where they can circulate) or the Lower Level Reference area near the end of the print periodical stacks, while some were withdrawn entirely. We think the result is a "leaner and meaner" reference collection that will be easier to browse and use.

Number of Geisel Guides Surpasses 100

The transition of our subject guides and course guides to the new [Geisel Guides](#) interface has just hit a milestone. We now have over one hundred guides available to direct students to quality resources for a variety of subject areas and courses.

The latest subject guides include [Environmental Science](#), [International Relations](#), and [LGBT Studies](#). As faculty, you may be particularly interested in our [New Materials at Geisel Library](#) guide which highlights some of our latest acquisitions by discipline and material type.

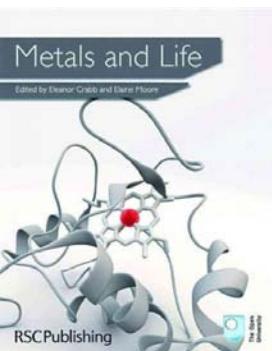
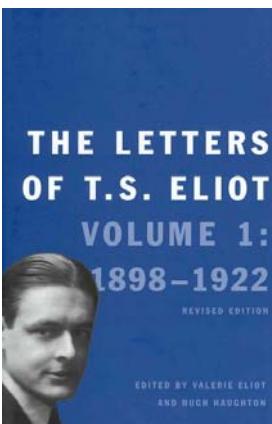
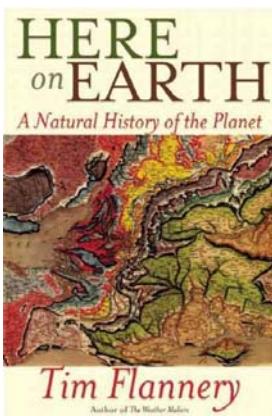
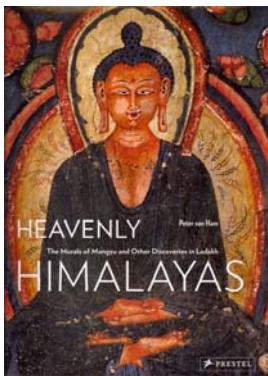
Our course guides are growing in popularity. Students and faculty appreciate their organization and their ability to highlight not only print resources but multimedia resources as well. You can view current and past course guides from the main [Geisel Guides](#) page. If you would like to request a course guide for one of your classes, please contact your [department's liaison librarian](#).

Wireless Network Enhancements in Faculty Study Room

As part of the Learning Commons upgrades, and with help from Information Technology, wireless access has been expanded and strengthened in Geisel Library. This is especially true for the Faculty Study rooms on the upper level (facing the Church), where a dedicated access point has been installed to cover both the Creaghe and Poisson special collections rooms. As a reminder, these rooms are partially intended as quiet faculty study spaces. They are located near the library's administrative office, and can be accessed by swiping your ID card at the door. Please let library staff know if you have any problems with wireless signal strength in the Faculty Study rooms, or anywhere else in the library.

Humanities After School

For the second year, the Geisel Library is participating in a grant project called "Humanities After School: Exploring a World of Human Greatness." Funded in part by the New Hampshire Humanities Council, the project's goal is to invite approximately fifty Manchester area immigrant and refugee high school students to our campus in order to research, explore and present 'Portraits of Greatness' identified from seventeen birth countries. Librarian Sam Urtz has been offering research guidance and library classroom space to them on many Monday afternoons. Several other



faculty members, administrators and Service Learner students are also involved in the program, including Professors Dan Forbes, Joe Catanese, Gary Bouchard and Ann Norton. For more information, contact [Sam Urtz](#) or Service Learner Student Coordinator [Jessica Genza](#).

Book Discussion Group at Geisel Library

We have had a very successful inaugural semester of the Geisel Book Group. We had two book selections in the fall: we distributed roughly 24 copies of each title, and had about 12 participants in each discussion group. We were pleased to have a mix of faculty and staff – we hope to get greater student participation as we continue.

In the Spring semester we will be discussing a book each month, and are alternating sessions between Fridays at noon and Tuesdays at 4:30 in an effort to include as many interested readers as possible. As noted before, we welcome faculty and staff to lead a discussion – the list of books from which we select our picks can be found on the [Book Discussion Group Guide](#). Please feel free to contact Betsy Holmes or Gwen Verkuilen if you have questions.

Our next discussion will be on Tuesday, January 24 at 4:30 in the library's Faculty Study room. We will be talking about *Mountains Beyond Mountains*, by Tracy Kidder – hope you can join us!

Politics, Science, and Art of Bees

This spring the exhibit in the lobby of Geisel Lobby explores pollinators – both honeybees and native species. Created thanks to the suggestion of Professor Barbara Baudot, the exhibit provides information on Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD), the syndrome causing honey bees to suddenly and mysteriously disappear in alarming numbers. It also provides background and cultural history on bees and beekeeping—at both global and very local levels.

The exhibit features color photography of Professor Baudot, and beekeeping equipment from Professor John D'Espinosa.

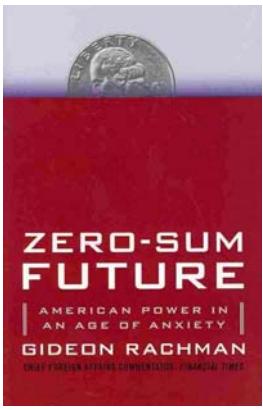
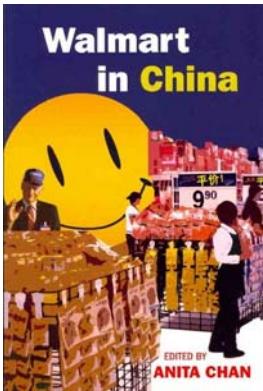
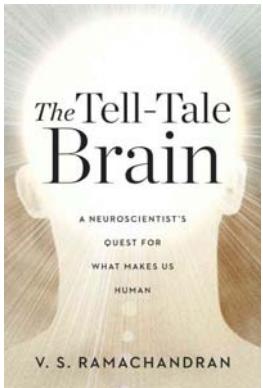
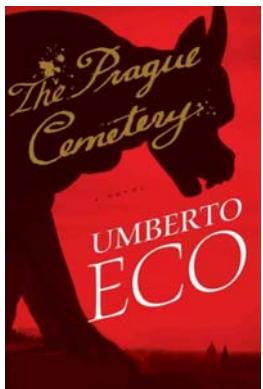
MLK Display in Library

As part of the campus wide MLK Celebratory Events, Geisel Library has created a display celebrating Martin Luther King Jr., leaders and participants in the Civil Rights Movement, and literature that was written during the time of the Civil Rights Movement or was inspired by the movement itself. Items will be on display on the main level of the library as well as in the Curriculum and Juvenile Literature Collections on the lower level of the library.

An [MLK Celebration Geisel Guide](#) was also created to highlight both print and online resources. Of particular interest to the Saint Anselm community is the “Saint Anselm College and the Civil Rights Movement” section on the guide’s landing page. This section provides access to [College Archive](#) materials that discuss Saint Anselm student involvement with the march in Selma as well as newspaper articles detailing speeches by civil rights leaders at Saint Anselm College.

NEW REFERENCE RESOURCES

Although we've downsized the print reference collection, we still place high importance on reference works like subject encyclopedias and handbooks as starting points for a successful research project. Steer your students to our [Virtual Reference Portal](#) to help them tap into Geisel Library's vast online and print reference collections.



Here is a selection of print and online reference sources acquired in recent months:

Art and Architecture of the World's Religions

Available in Gale Virtual Reference Library

This handbook presents lengthy essays on each major world religious tradition. Each essay uses a discussion of the religion's origins and principal beliefs as a springboard for understanding the art and architecture associated with it. Interspersed within the text are numerous black-and-white illustrations of buildings, paintings, sculptures, and other works of art. Each essay closes with an extensive bibliography that could serve as a gateway into the scholarly literature on the subject.

Encyclopedia of Research Design

Available in Gale Virtual Reference Library

SAGE is well-known for its excellent reference works on the mechanics of designing and conducting research projects in the social sciences. This three-volume encyclopedia provides helpful overviews of important concepts at every stage of the research process, including experimental design, statistical analysis, interpretation of results, and ethical considerations. It provides guidance for both qualitative and quantitative methodologies. This encyclopedia could be a useful supplemental source for any research methods or applied statistics course.

Gale Encyclopedia of Medicine

Available in Gale Virtual Reference Library

The 1,850 medical topics in this 6-volume online set offer information about diseases, disorders, tests and procedures, nutrition and wellness, treatments and therapies, all accessible via the easy Gale search interface. Lots of full-color illustrations (photos, diagrams and tables) are included, and bibliographies appear at the end of many of the signed entries. This encyclopedia bridges the gap between basic consumer sources and specialized medical texts.

Literature and Its Times

Available in Gale Virtual Reference Library

This 5-volume online set discusses 300 important works within the context of events and ideas that shaped history from ancient times through the present. In addition to providing synopses, *Literature and Its Times* also provides explanations of the social, political, or cultural conditions that may have informed the works, thus offering a multi-disciplinary approach to literary studies. All genres are given consideration, including novels, short stories, plays, poems, biographies, essays, speeches, and documents.

Social History of the United States

Available in Gale Virtual Reference Library

Each volume of this 10 volume set focuses on a different decade of the 1900s, making it an excellent starting point for students to become acquainted with life in the United States during the 20th century. By focusing on the lives of various segments of the U.S. population, students will not only come to understand how major political and economic events shaped the lives of everyday Americans but also how the lives of everyday Americans shaped U.S. history. An added bonus is that each volume comes with a volume introduction, providing a summary of the major events of that decade.

World of a Slave: Encyclopedia of the Material Life of Slaves in the U.S.

Available in Gale Virtual Reference Library

Rather than focusing on the political and economic aspects of slavery in the United States, this encyclopedia focuses on the items with which slaves physically interacted. Examinations of seemingly insignificant items like gourds, corn, and French horns become revealing windows into a slave's day to day existence. Through these examinations readers will develop an understanding of how objects reinforced the institution of slavery or how objects worked to create a sense of community apart from the confines of slavery. The encyclopedia's inclusion of images and excerpts from interviews and/or slave narratives only works to deepen one's understanding of the dynamic role these items played in the life of a slave.