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Research Help

The Dean's Preface

A note from Dean of the Libraries, Brooke Cox

Like everything else, the reference desk and the way we provide service at it has changed. What hasn't changed is the need for assistance with difficult information seeking tasks. Libraries receive fewer questions in the background information area (e.g. dates, places) these days but spend time on more complex research questions. DePauw Libraries seek to meet the needs of researchers by staffing the research desk with trained students and making librarians readily available for one-on-one collaboration.

Librarian Consultations

Since we began scheduling librarian consultations using LibCal in June 2019, we have had **794 appointments!** These are mostly with students working on upper-level research questions, and we spend a lot of time talking about their questions before diving into the databases.

As Brooke Cox noted, our research questions have become more complex. For the past three years, 22% of our consultations lasted over 30 minutes. That includes time for initial conversation (what we call the "Reference Interview"), keyword development, searching, evaluating hits, and helping the student think through follow-up steps.

Make an appointment with a librarian here:
<https://libcal.depauw.edu/appointments>

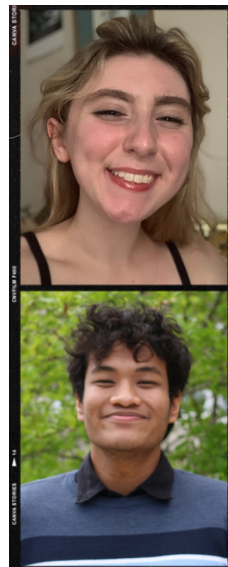
Service Spotlight: Peer Research Consultants

The Peer Research Consultants are here to help students with all their library research needs - whether it's finding peer-reviewed journal articles, searching for historical newspapers to use as primary sources, or just figuring out how to focus their question and find a starting point. You can find them in Prevo Science Library or on chat at libanswers.depauw.edu

Hours PRCs are at the Research Spot in Prevo each week

67 hours

Who are the PRCs? Meet two!



Liz Dugan is a junior from Putnam County, majoring in English Lit and Anthropology, and minoring in History.

Animesh Dali is a junior from Nepal, majoring in Biochemistry and Cellular & Molecular Biology, and minoring in Mathematics.

Meet all of the PRCs at
<https://libguides.depauw.edu/prc>