

Ayala Science Library Self-Guided Tour

Begin your tour in the Ayala Science Library Courtyard. Stand in the middle of the courtyard so that the entrance to the Multimedia Resources Center is on your right and the entrance to the library is on your left.

UCI's Ayala Science Library, one of the largest consolidated science, technology, and medicine libraries in the nation, contains the collections and services that support research and teaching in the schools of Biological Sciences, Engineering, Information and Computer Science, Physical Sciences, portions of social Ecology, and Medicine.

- There are over 50 small group study rooms located throughout the entire Ayala Science Library and available on a first-come, first-served basis.
- These rooms are ideal when you need to work on a group project, or when you want to study with some friends.
- The Science Library offers a wide variety of open seating arrangements too, and in fact, a lot of students say it's their favorite place to study on campus.

Looking straight ahead through the breezeway and across the pedestrian bridge, you'll see the Health Sciences Complex. This is where students in the first two years of medical school attend classes.

Behind you, near the entrance to the courtyard, there's a door that leads to **The Center for Excellence in Writing and Communication, a.k.a. the Writing Center**. Here, you can find writing support services like individual conferences, walk-in writing clinics, and consultations with peer tutors free of charge to all enrolled UCI students. The Center also supports workshops for faculty seeking to improve their teaching of writing, as well as research into writing pedagogy and effective writing support across the disciplines.

To your right is a door that leads to the **Multimedia Resources Center or MRC**. This is where we house everything that isn't in print: in other words, DVDs, videos, CDs and other types of media. There are televisions with headphones for viewing video, computers loaded with advanced software, even electronic piano keyboards. The MRC also features three computer labs, where library workshops and classes are often held. Students, staff, and faculty can also check out wireless laptops and iPads from the MRC. MRC access does require an ID.

On your left, you'll find the entrance to the **Ayala Science Library** itself.

Go ahead into the building through the big, glass doors.

1st Floor:

The first thing you'll see when you get inside is the **Check Out Desk**. This is where you can activate your library card and check out and return books. For those who like to do it themselves, there are **Express Check Out** stations on the 1st and 4th floors. If you need help or have questions, ask at the Check Out Desk and the friendly staff there will help you.

There are elevators and a staircase to your right. It's up to you which way you want to go, but ***when you get to the second floor, turn right and find a place to stand near the top of the staircase.***

2nd Floor:

You are now on the second floor of the library.

Just outside the elevators doors you will notice study tables which have plenty of power outlets to plug in your laptop or phone to charge while you work. There are also several computer workstations that anyone can use. If you turn so you are facing the windows looking down on the Science Library Courtyard, you'll see glass doors to your right and left to enter the **Grand Reading Room**. No matter which door you enter, you'll eventually end up in the same place if you keep walking. You'll notice that this part of the building is shaped like a circle. Its circular shape is the reason we call it the Drum. The Grand Reading Room is where you can browse the current journals in science and technology, find science reference materials and meet with a Reference Librarian. This is also where the microform collections are located.

First, let's start with the left side of the Grand Reading Room.

- The library's **Consultation Desk** and **Reference materials** are located through the glass door on the **left**.
- If you are in need of personalized research help, you can schedule a half-hour, one-on-one Research Consultation appointment with a librarian through the Libraries' website.
- The **Consultation Desk** is a common meeting location for a scheduled research appointment but we also offer online consultations now if you can't get to campus.

- Friendly librarians are eager to help you out, so don't be shy about asking questions!

When you walk past the Consultation desk, you'll see the **science reference collection**, which includes resources like science encyclopedias and dictionaries. Just beyond the reference books, you will see shelves of **current science magazines and journals**. And just a bit further is the collection of **microform and the special equipment** for reading, copying and printing the materials.

Because the reference materials, magazines and journals can only be used inside the library building, many students make copies of the information they need using one of the copy machines located throughout the library.

- Networked printers are also available on each floor of the building to allow printing from library computers and personal computers via the wireless printing system.
- Campus ID cards are used for **printing** and **photocopying** at all UCI Libraries and can be swiped at any copier, microform reader/printer, or print release station to pay for copies/prints.
- Funds can be added to both campus ID cards and Library copy/print cards, and library copy/print cards may be purchased at card dispensers and regenerators located near the Copy Services Desk on the second floor and in the MRC.
- We also have two **scanners** in the Grand Reading Room and one in the MRC.

The reading room is where you'll find many of the **public computers** in the library.

- These PCs with Windows 7 feature Internet Explorer, Firefox, the Microsoft Office suite, and are available for anyone to use –no ID or sign-up necessary.

You will also find lots of **seating and study space** as you walk around the 2nd floor drum.

- By the way, **wireless access** to the campus network and places to plug in your laptop are available throughout the Science Library.

The next stop on the tour is the 5th floor. We're going to skip the 3rd floor because it's for library staff only. We're heading up to the 5th floor because it has one of the best views on campus!

Head back over to the elevator and take it all the way up to the 5th floor. When you arrive, take a few steps away from the elevator door and take a look around.

5th Floor:

You'll find books and journals on the 4th and 5th floors, and the layout of both floors are basically the same. This floor also holds federal government publications.

- Signs near the elevators will show you what floor to find items based on their call numbers.
- Take a walk toward the windows that look out over the Health Sciences Complex. You'll notice that there are rows and rows of books on your right and left. We call this section of the building the Bar and it's where you'll find books.
- Now turn around and walk toward the windows that look out over the library courtyard. You'll notice that the corridor curves off to your right and left.
- As you now know, this section of the building is called the Drum and on the 4th and 5th floors, it's where you'll find science journals.

6th Floor:

You can take a ride up to the top if you want to extend your tour. Up on the 6th floor the Drum section of the library houses the staff offices for the Office of Information Technology and is closed off to students. But, the Bar section is open to students and, like the 4th and 5th floors, holds the book stacks.

Remember/Recap:

- Books are shelved in the Bar and journals are shelved in the Drum – but don't worry, if you forget our ANTPAC Catalog will always tell you where items are located in the building.
- The 4th, 5th and 6th floor Study halls are officially designated quiet zones, perfect for focusing on individual study, whereas the 2nd floor is ideal if you like a little background noise.

This concludes your library tour. Remember, if you need help finding books, articles, or any kind of information, ask a librarian! We hope you've enjoyed this tour and will make the library your home away from home here at UCI.