Using Yale’s Libraries

Resources for Summer Session Students
Top Things to Know

1. Your **Yale ID** is the key to access.
2. Requesting some books may involve planning ahead.
3. “Ask Yale library” allows you to ask basic questions online.
4. ORBIS is the book & journal search tool.
5. Borrow Direct allows you to borrow from other Ivy campuses.
6. Subject Guides allows you to search databases by subject
7. Finding Aids allows you to search collections in the Beinecke library
8. Workshops and tours are offered by the library during the summer.
9. Ask the library staff for help. They are happy to help you!
Libraries and Collections

List of the libraries and special collections
Ask the Yale Library

It’s a chat service for basic questions about the library. You can also ask about writing a research paper.
ORBIS

ORBIS is Yale’s database to search for books and journal articles.
Borrow Direct

Borrow Direct allows you to borrow books from other Ivy League libraries. This requires some planning. Books take roughly 3-5 days to arrive to Yale.
Subject Guides

Subject Guides are searchable databases by subject.
Finding Aids lets you search the collections in the Beinecke Library
Special Collections

The guide on how to access Yale’s Special Collections. May include: manuscripts, archives, rare books, audio-visual materials, artifacts and artwork, and electronic files. These are held by several libraries.
Final Notes

• Yale allows access to many of the collections it owns. Use them!
• The library staff want to help you. Ask questions.

• If you’re not sure where to begin:
  • 1. Go to the library website or
  • 2. Go to the Sterling Memorial library and look for the desk on the right hand side
    when you walk into the main nave. Ask the librarians there for help.