Guide to Reference Services for CSU Students

The CSU Library supports the CSU community with access to information and research assistance. The online collection contains resources chosen to support the programs of study at Columbia Southern University. Library resources such as journal articles or ebooks can be accessed at any time through the library website.

The CSU Library is staffed by professional librarians available to help when you need them. The three main avenues of library support are phone, email, and chat. Phone and email assistance are available during regular business hours, and chat is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, including holidays. Students can also request a one-on-one research appointment via video conference or screenshare. Students who visit CSU’s campus are also welcome to schedule an in-person consultation.

Our librarians are ready to assist you during each step of the research process. Contact us when you need to do the following:

- Brainstorm appropriate research strategies such as determining keywords for your topic.
- Navigate library databases for journal articles and other library resources to support your assignments.
- Locate and obtain specific articles or other resources assigned in your courses.
- Limit your search by article type (such as peer-reviewed), date of publication, or article length.

We also invite you to explore the video tutorials and research guides hosted on the CSU Library’s webpage. Designed by CSU librarians, our tutorials and guides exist to make sure you get the help you need when you need it!

The research assignments in your courses are learning activities that support the course objectives. Thus, the CSU librarians are NOT able to select or recommend a research topic for your assignment or simply provide library materials such as journal articles on request.

If you need further guidance on or an explanation of an assignment, your course professor is your best resource for questions about assignment instructions. Additionally, the CSU Writing Center can provide guidance on the correct format for CSU writing assignments as well as the use of APA rules of style. We will, however, be happy to help you work through finding appropriate library resources using the strategies listed above.