LEAVEY LIBRARY

The Thomas and Dorothy Leavey Library provides a technologically enhanced research and learning environment for students and faculty at the University of Southern California. Leavey’s print and electronic collections, services, and technologies are designed to help with coursework, studying, and research. During the school year, the library is open 24 hours a day, and is a primary location for study on campus. Leavey’s spaces support teaching and individual or group study—as well as film screenings, multimedia production and viewing, presentations, and videoconferencing.

COLLECTIONS

Leavey offers a core research and reference collection, a film library of more than 5,000 DVDs and videotapes, and a selection of the most requested academic journals, magazines, and newspapers. You can browse Leavey’s featured collections of plays, classic works of literature and philosophy, recent bestsellers, and new books. The USC Libraries also provide a wealth of online resources, including full-text journals, dictionaries, encyclopedias, and photographs.

SOCIAL MEDIA

@uscleaveylibrary | Instagram
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TOP LEFT McNaughton Collection on the second floor. A Exterior at night. B Third-floor Ahmanson Lab C Group collaboration space on the lower level.
The lower level of Leavey Library, called the Ahmanson Information Commons, is managed by USC’s Information Technology Services department (ITS) and offers printing and software support for students. Open student study spaces (1) and collaborative workrooms (2) are provided on a first-come, first-served basis. A 12,000-volume collection of core, interdisciplinary books, featuring fundamental texts in the arts, humanities, and sciences, can be found on the lower level (3).

To the left of the stairway is the Auditorium (4), which along with the six fully-equipped Classrooms (5) on this level, may be reserved through ITS.
The Entrance Pavilion (1) to Leavey Library features an infinity pool and a deck with tables for study and dining. The Entrance (2) leads into the main part of the first floor. At the Circulation Desk (3), books, movies, course reserves, and interlibrary loans may be checked out. Further down, the Weingart Reading Room displays the Wall of Scholars (4), which celebrates USC students who have earned national and international fellowships; a multimedia room is used for viewing the library’s collection of DVDs (5), and another study space hosts a collection of current periodicals and an assistive technology lab (6). Additional study space, collaborative workrooms, and library instruction rooms can be found to the right of the elevator lobby (7).
In the lobby, the McNaughton collection (1) features recently published fiction, nonfiction, and graphic novels in a wide variety of genres. The rest of the second floor is devoted to student study spaces (2) and group study rooms (3), which may be reserved in advance at libcal.usc.edu.

**LEAVEY LIBRARY** is a center for student learning on campus. Throughout the year, the USC Libraries host student-focused activities in and around Leavey, such as early semester welcome events, a Day of the Dead celebration around Halloween, Lunch-and-Learns for international students to get acquainted with all of our resources, and the popular “Study On!” stress-reduction events just before finals each semester (come for the cookies, stay for the therapy dogs!) A full list of library-sponsored events may be found at libraries.usc.edu/events.
The third floor of Leavey Library devotes much of its space to individual study space (1) and collaborative workrooms (2).

An extensive reference collection (3) that supports research and study includes encyclopedias, test prep materials, and writing guides.

The floor is also home to the Ahmanson Lab, which is part of the USC Sidney Harman Academy for Polymathic Study (4).

**AHMANSON LAB**

Polymathy values different ways of learning, knowing, and being, ranging from the written word to various modes of embodiment and creative practice. The Ahmanson Lab extends the Harman Academy’s focus on integrative learning by offering students a space for experimentation, play, and creative exploration. Through workshops on design, digital authoring, physical computing, and other creative endeavors, students explore the value of making to polymathic inquiry. A roster of faculty, artists, and designers work with students to expand their thinking about the potentials of polymathic practice.

Visit the Lab’s website for more information about its projects and upcoming events:

polymathic.usc.edu/our-programs/ahmanson-lab
The fourth floor of Leavey Library is devoted to the USC Shoah Foundation Institute for Visual History and Education (1). The Institute currently has more than 55,000 video testimonies, each one a unique source of insight and knowledge. These powerful stories from history demand to be explored and shared.

The testimonies are preserved in the Visual History Archive, one of the largest digital collections of its kind in the world. They average a little more than two hours each in length and were conducted in 65 countries and 43 languages. The vast majority of the testimonies contain a complete personal history of life before, during, and after the interviewee’s experience with genocide.