

Introduction

Welcome to the D.B. Weldon Library!

In this self-guided tour, we'll be exploring the library's major spaces, as well as the many services and resources we have available for Western students.

Weldon at a Glance

Weldon is the largest and most central of Western's libraries. While it contains a little bit of everything, the book collection focuses on three main areas:

- Arts & Humanities
- Social Sciences
- Information & Media Studies

Weldon's [current hours](#) can be found on our website.

Other Library Locations

In addition to Weldon, we have four other libraries on campus. Though each location is dedicated to a different discipline, they are all connected. This means you can study at and get materials from any library, regardless of what you are studying!

- [Taylor Library](#) (STEM)
- [Business Library](#)
- [Law Library](#)
- [Music Library](#)

First stop: Info Desk

Our tour begins at the Info Desk. You'll see it under the large "Info" sign.

Stop 1: Info Desk

The Info Desk is your one-stop shop for everything the library has to offer. Our friendly and knowledgeable library staff can help you:

- Access our large collection of resources
- Orient yourself to the library
- Check out books (you can also use the self check-out machines across from the Info Desk) or loanable technology
- Find out anything you'd like to know about the library

Displays

We have several nearby displays, located along the railing and wall to the left of the Info Desk. These include the Black and Mixed Race Resources Collection, New Books, a rotating display, and bookable display space. We always have something new and interesting on display, so be sure to check it out!

Chatime

Need a drink for your study session? Stop by our very own Chatime location, found down the stairs behind the displays.

Next stop: Community Corner

The tour will continue counterclockwise around the Main Floor. The next stop is our Community Corner. You'll see it across from the Info Desk by the elevators.

Stop 2: Community Corner

At the Community Corner, staff, faculty, and researchers host a variety of events to engage with students and other library users. Whether it's dropping in for help on your assignments, giving feedback on a library service, or taking part in a research study, there's always something interesting happening at the Corner.

Next stop: Silent Study Room

The next stop is the Silent Study Room. You'll find it in the back right corner of the Main Floor, located behind the glass wall.

Stop 3: Silent Study Room

Shh! Make sure to stay quiet in our Silent Study Room. The walls and ceiling are covered in acoustic panelling to ensure this is the quietest study space in Weldon. It contains a variety of seating options, from comfy chairs to cubicles with height-adjustable desks.

Noise Zones

Our libraries have three noise level zones. Whether you prefer studying quietly on your own or want to work with friends, we have a space for you. Pay attention to the coloured signs on the walls to know what noise zone you're in.

- Conversation-friendly (green zones): Talk freely with friends and classmates. These zones can be found on the Main Floor, Mezzanine, 2nd floor, and 3rd floor vault.
- Quiet (yellow zones): Study quietly in small groups. These zones can be found on the 3rd floor.
- Silent (red zones): Silent study only; no talking or noise permitted. These zones can be found in the Silent Study Room and on the 4th floor.

Next stop: Archives and Special Collections

The next stop is our Archives and Special Collections Centre. It located around the corner to the left of the Silent Study Room beside the window. The tour sign is posted outside the entrance.

Stop 4: Archives and Special Collections

This is the entrance to the Archives and Special Collections Centre. It's home to all of Western's rare, unique, and historical materials. If you'd like to do research with any of these materials, head inside to the Reading Room to connect with Archives staff, or contact archives.services@uwo.ca.

Next stop: Self-Serve Area

The next stop is the Self-Serve Area. It is along the back wall of the Main Floor, under the signs that say "Course Readings/Holds" and "Print/Copy/Scan".

Stop 5: Self-Serve Area

The Self-Serve Area is dedicated to all the resources students need for their assignments.

Printers

Our printers also copy and scan. You can print directly from your laptop or other device using your PaperCut account.

Holds

If Weldon doesn't have a book you're looking for, you can place it on hold. We'll deliver it from another library location, one of our partner universities across Ontario, or from virtually anywhere in the world for pick-up on the Holds shelf.

If you only need a specific chapter or article, you can place a digitization request. We'll scan and send it directly to your inbox.

Course Readings

On the Course Readings shelf you'll find books that instructors have put aside for their courses. They are available for short-term loan, usually 1 day.

Next stop: Pride Library

To reach the next stop, head back out the Self-Service Area and to your right. Walk through the open study area until you reach the Pride Library on the opposite end.

Stop 6: Pride Library

The Pride Library is home to a plethora of LGBTQ+ books and other materials. Started as a small collection by a Western faculty member, it has since grown into its own library.

You'll find lots of open study space nearby. This area is also home to the Weldon Gallery, where we display art and exhibits from the Western community. You can find the gallery near the washrooms by the Self-Serve Area.

Next stop: Mezzanine

To reach the next stop, retrace your steps and head back past the Self-Serve Area and Archives and Special Collections Centre. Head up the wooden staircase across from the Silent Study Room, or take the elevator to floor M. The tour sign is found near the top of the staircase.

Stop 7: Mezzanine

The Mezzanine is one of the most popular areas for undergrad students. It is conversation-friendly, making it a great place for group work or studying with friends. A variety of seating options are available, from cubicles to comfy couches to café-style seating by the windows.

Bookable Study Rooms

Along the back wall of the Mezzanine are several bookable group study rooms. They have screens that you can cast your laptops and other devices to, making them perfect for group work. You can book these rooms through our website up to two weeks in advance. We also have more study rooms on the 2nd and ground floors, as well as at our other library locations.

Family Room

If you follow the Mezzanine railing straight ahead and continue past the elevators, you'll find our Family Room. This is a bookable study space for students who are caring for children under 16 with their children present.

Next stop: Student Services Hub

The next stop is our Student Services Hub. To get there, follow the Mezzanine railing to the corner by the elevators. The tour sign is on the pillar facing this corner.

Stop 8: Student Services Hub

The Mezzanine is also home to our Student Services Hub, which offers several useful services.

Writing Support

The Writing Support Centre offers drop-in sessions if you'd like help with writing or editing your assignments. You can also [book appointments](#) with Writing Support staff in the Student Services Building.

Research Help

Need help with research for an assignment? You can [book a Research Help appointment](#) with library staff at any stage of the research process. We can help you:

- Navigate the library website and databases
- Develop search terms and strategies
- Find and evaluate resources for your assignments

There are lots of other ways to get in touch with the library. You can:

- Visit the Info Desk
- Attend a library workshop
- Email us at library@uwo.ca
- Use [Ask the Library](#), our live online chat service

Next stop: Stacks

The next stop of our tour is the stacks. To get there, take the stairs or elevator to the 2nd floor. The tour sign is on the wall outside the elevators.

Stop 9: Stacks

Weldon's book collection spans the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th floors of the building. While we house mainly academic works, there are lots of other materials. There is also plenty of study space mixed in with the stacks. Feel free to explore these floors to see what's available!

2nd floor

This floor is conversation-friendly. It has open study space, as well as bookable group study rooms.

Along the perimeter of the stack floors you'll notice halls of individual study rooms. These are bookable for graduate students or students registered with Accessible Education.

3rd floor

This floor is mainly a quiet zone. Through the doors in the middle of the floor, you'll find a space known as the "vault", which is conversation-friendly.

4th floor

This floor is a silent zone; no talking please!

Finding a Book

Wondering how to find a book in a library as large as Weldon?

You can start by searching our [online catalogue](#) for titles, authors, or keywords. You'll be shown a variety of resources you can access, both digital and in print. If it's a print book, you'll see a call number listed. The call number is a series of letters and numbers which acts like the book's address on the library shelves. To find the book, start with the first letter of the call number. Signage near the elevators shows what letters can be found on each floor. Once you're on the correct floor, each row of shelves has a label showing what range of call numbers can be found in that row. Simply follow the alphabet and then the numbers in order until you find the book. Books on similar topics are shelved together, so it's always a good idea to browse around.

You can check out as many books as you'd like for 120 days each, which is about the length of a semester. If you need a book for longer, you also have unlimited renewals. If you can't find something in our collection, we'll find it for you, and ship it from virtually anywhere in the world for you to pick up. We've also gotten rid of most of our fines, and only charge for overdue short-term loans or lost items.

Final stop: Ground Floor

The last stop of our tour is the Ground Floor. To get there, head all the way down the stairs or take the elevator to Floor G. Follow the hallway until you reach the open area at the bottom of the stairs leading down from Chatime.

Stop 10: Ground Floor

Weldon's ground floor contains several notable locations and collections.

Periodicals

The library's periodical collection, consisting of academic journals and magazines, is housed in the compact (or moveable) shelving adjacent to the main staircase.

Microfilm

The microfilm collection is also housed on this floor, in the yellow or orange cabinets throughout. We have a variety of materials on microfilm, such as a collection of historical Ontario newspapers. Use one of our microfilm readers to view and save materials.

Map and Data Centre

Walking left from the main staircase, you'll find our Map and Data Centre. Here we provide access to geographic materials such as maps, globes, and aerial photographs. There are also computers with specialized statistical software, bookable study rooms, and open study space.

Scholars Lab

Continuing past the Map and Data Centre you'll see the entrance to the Scholars Lab. This space is dedicated to supporting the research enterprise. It features an open space for presentations and workshops, study areas for graduate students, and special classrooms for various research and scholarship activities.

That's the end of our tour for today. We hope you enjoyed exploring Weldon and learning more about the library. If you have any questions, please [contact us](#) or visit the Info Desk. Enjoy the rest of your day!