

THE LIBRARY CHECKOUT

THE RÍO HONDO COLLEGE LIBRARY NEWSLETTER



SPRING 2023
ISSUE 9

www.riohondo.edu/library



CAMPUS LIBRARY (LRC, 2ND FLOOR)

HOURS

MONDAY–THURSDAY

7 AM to 9 PM

FRIDAY

7 AM to 3 PM

SATURDAY–SUNDAY

CLOSED

TEXT, CHAT, OR

ZOOM WITH A LIBRARIAN

MONDAY–THURSDAY

7 AM to 9 PM

FRIDAY

7 AM to 3 PM

CONTACT US

CIRCULATION DESK

(562) 908-3416

REFERENCE DESK

(562) 908-3484

TEXT-A-LIBRARIAN

(562) 418-5253

EMAIL

riohondocollegelibrary@gmail.com

Library hours and/or services are subject to change. Please check the Library website and follow us on social media for the latest information and updates.



DEAR FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES,

Happy New Year, and welcome to Spring 2023! I'm happy to share the ninth issue of *The Library Checkout*—the official newsletter of Rio Hondo College Library.

This is also the *final* issue of *The Library Checkout*! But not to worry: *The Library Checkout* will return as an all-new newsletter, with an all-new, to-be-determined title, after Spring 2023. The new newsletter will still feature all the information you need to know about RHC Library, but it will also include information about RHC's instructional support centers, including the Math, Engineering, and Science Center (MSEC, or MSE Center); Writing Center (WC) and Writers' Resource Center (WRC); and the Learning Assistance Center (LAC), all now in the same building as the Library: the Learning Resource Center building, or LRC.

I know that's a lot of abbreviations to keep in mind! But one hope for the revamped newsletter is that students, staff, and faculty will begin to become more familiar with the names of these important places, as well as the excellent resources and services at these centers (to say nothing of excellent staff and faculty!) students can rely upon for help with classes and homework, computers and printers, study skills and navigating the academic side of the college experience, and, well, all-around support and assistance.

One common theme of the dean's message in the issues of this newsletter since 2020 has been my reflecting upon our response(s) to COVID-19, tracing the ways RHC Library has responded to each phase of the pandemic, with team members doing their utmost to provide resources and services to RHC students despite some significant restrictions—most namely not being able to offer these things in person in the Library! A closely related theme has been my describing those pre-pandemic, in-person Library resources and services that have slowly but surely been restored as the College has restored on-ground operations, and personnel and students have returned to campus.

On the occasion of this final *Library Checkout* newsletter, it makes me incredibly happy to write that after long last, *three years* since RHC made the switch to nearly total remote learning, all services and resources at RHC Library *have been brought back*. The very last COVID-related change—group study rooms being closed—has ended: Group study rooms are once again available for student use, and will relaunch with an all-new, slick system that students can use to reserve these study rooms online. Alongside this good news, here's some more: This semester, except for Saturdays, RHC Library's hours are back to pre-pandemic hours! That's 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday to Thursday, and 7 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Fridays.

You know the score. As I wrote last time, students are welcome to come through “for Wi-Fi and power outlets; librarians who help with all sorts of research- and library-related questions at the Reference Desk; computers on which to do homework, get online, and attend remote courses; copying, scanning, and printing documents in the Library's Copy Center; and of course checking out books and reserve textbooks at the Circulation Desk.”

Lots more information about these things (and more!) are contained in the following pages, so take a look! Lastly, thanks to the Library team members who have helped make this newsletter so great, and especially Librarian Brian Young, who proposed the idea of a newsletter years ago, and who has done excellent work serving as its editor-in-chief since then. And remember: Brian and the entire RHC Library team are dedicated to helping you whenever and wherever you need us—so don't hesitate to ask! We hope this last issue of *The Library Checkout* is helpful, and look forward to connecting with you safely in person or online this semester.

Sincerely,
Mike Garabedian
Dean, Library and Instructional Support

LIBRARY SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Get Help from a Librarian

Friendly librarians work in person at the Reference Desk to help with all your library-related needs. This includes assistance with finding resources (like books, e-books, and articles), research consultations, citation help, and more! Librarians are also available online through text, chat, email, or *Zoom*. So, whether you are on or off-campus, librarians are here for you! Visit the RHC Library website at www.riohondo.edu/library (and page 1 of this newsletter!) for information about this semester's on-campus/online reference hours, and how to connect with a librarian.

Library Resources

RHC students are able to borrow books from our extensive circulating book collection, and check out reserve textbooks (for up to two hours, in-library use only, or scan sections of reserve books in the Copy Center to read later). The Library provides a safe, quiet, and comfortable environment, with access to individual and group study spaces (nearly all of which have power outlets), as well as group study rooms. Library patrons also have access to desktop PC and Mac computers, with the ability to print, scan, or copy documents. If you're taking a remote course via *Zoom*, the Library is an ideal place to work, with noise-canceling headphones available for check out and free Wi-Fi.

RHC Library provides access to hundreds of thousands of online, electronic resources—including e-books, scholarly and popular articles, streaming video, images, and more—all of which are accessible through the RHC Library website at <https://www.riohondo.edu/library>. For help finding sources for your assignments, contact a librarian today.

Technology Checkout

Chromebooks and mobile hotspots are now available for checkout. Currently registered RHC students, faculty, or staff must first fill out a Technology Reservation Form at <https://www.riohondo.edu/library/technology-request>. Once submitted, you will be placed on a waiting list and contacted when your item is ready for pickup. For questions regarding technology items, call the Library Circulation Desk at (562) 908-3416.

NEW FOR SPRING 2023

STUDY ROOMS ARE OPEN!

RIO HONDO COLLEGE LIBRARY

FOR GROUPS OF 2-6 STUDENTS
UP TO 2 HOURS A DAY
ONLINE ROOM RESERVATIONS
(UP TO 1 WEEK IN ADVANCE)

VISIT THE RHC LIBRARY
REFERENCE DESK TO RESERVE
A ROOM, OR FOR MORE INFO

LIBRARY SERVICES FOR FACULTY

Library Instruction

Through library orientations, librarians work directly with instructors to teach information literacy and help students find resources for their assignments. Instruction sessions can be scheduled to take place either in-person (typically within library classrooms); "live" via *Zoom* for remote courses; or in some cases, with asynchronous, librarian-created videos. To request library instruction, please fill out a *Faculty Request for Library Instruction* form at <http://bit.ly/RioLibRequest>. Orientations typically cover both general library information (library services and resources, digital scavenger hunts, etc.) or more specialized topics (such as using specific databases, narrowing a research topic, evaluating online sources, citation styles, etc.). Whatever your needs, we can design an orientation that will be beneficial to you and your students.

Division Liaison Librarians

Liaison librarians serve as a primary library contact, and provide specialized information, instruction, and resources to their respective academic divisions. In addition, librarians also take purchase requests and recommendations for library materials, can work with you on extended projects, and offer one-on-one research consultations for your students. Visit <https://www.riohondo.edu/library/about/division-liaisons> to learn more about and connect with your liaison librarian.

Streaming Video Requests

Is there a film or video that you would like your class to be able to watch? The Library is now taking title requests through both the *Kanopy* and *Swank* video streaming platforms. To view or request a title, start by accessing *Kanopy* or *Swank* through the Library's A-Z Database page at <https://libguides.riohondo.edu/az.php>. Simply search for the film or video you are looking for, and if we don't already have it in our collection, a "request access" email can be generated (which goes directly to your liaison librarian). Streaming video titles can be shown on campus in the classroom or accessed from home, making streaming a convenient option for both students and faculty instructors alike.

Research Guides (LibGuides) and Video Tutorials

Librarians can create an online research guide (*LibGuide*) for your specific course, subject area, and/or assignment. *LibGuides* can easily be shared on your *Canvas* page or syllabus, and give your students easy and direct access to a variety of resources. Librarians also have the ability to create and embed tutorials and quizzes directly into *LibGuides* to promote assessment and active learning. New video tutorials are being produced on a regular basis and added throughout the semester to the RHC Library *You Tube* page: <https://tinyurl.com/rhclibraryyoutube>.

Spotlight On ...

Spring 2022 Library Satisfaction and Feedback Survey

With the assistance of the Office of Institutional Research and Planning (IRP, now known as the Office of Institutional Effectiveness (IE)), and specifically expertise provided by Research Analyst Sarah Cote, in Spring 2022 RHC librarians helped design an all-new Library satisfaction and feedback survey.

Students who elected to take the online survey also became eligible for an opportunity prize (a \$100 VISA gift card). The Spring 2022 survey had an exceptionally high response rate, with 246 respondents taking the survey during several weeks in May. Respondents answered questions about general satisfaction, Library habits and usage, and the ways in which the Library can better serve the campus community.

The Library's intention is to deploy this survey each and every spring in order to track data trends from year to year—and to use RHC students' input to reflect upon Library resources and services, with an eye to shaping new services and resources and improving existing offerings. For now, it was encouraging to learn that by and large respondents indicated the Library a great place on campus, not only for help with research, books, and learning resources, but also a clean, quiet, comfortable space for students to complete their work. For example, to a question about their thoughts about the Library overall, fully 92% of respondents answered "excellent" or "good"—and not one respondent who responded "poor."



"Word cloud" created from student responses to RHCL survey questions.

10-MINUTE CLASS PRESENTATIONS ABOUT RHC LIBRARY



In our recent RHC Library student survey (see above), we discovered that many students were unaware of services and resources available at the campus library, or those offered online. Student survey takers expressed a desire to have been better informed prior to the survey.

In an effort to change this situation, and to reach as many students as possible, librarians are now available to visit your classroom for a quick, 10-minute presentation about the Library. This service was first introduced in Fall 2022 and has already been proven to be highly effective.

Of course, we already share information about Library resources and services with students via social media and email blasts, but we know from experience that in-person presentations are far more effective. In-person presentations also put an actual face to the Library so that students feel comfortable approaching librarians in the future.

Instructors can schedule a 10-minute presentation by filling out and submitting a *Faculty Request for Library Instruction* form at <http://bit.ly/RioLibRequest>. Just select the "Classroom about library presentation" option, along with the date, time, and location of your class.

An updated student flyer has also been created, as a supplement to these presentations, which highlights Library services and resources, along with FAQs. The flyer can be found on [our website](#), under the *Library Services for Students* tab.

SPRING 2023 MONTHLY OBSERVANCES AND CELEBRATIONS



Please join us in our recognition of the monthly observances and celebrations listed below. To coincide with these events, a series of new displays and research guides (containing information and online resources) will be created each month. Library displays feature hand-selected books from the Library's collection. Come and check them out!

February

- Black History Month
- Valentine's Day

March

- Women's History Month
- National Nutrition Month

April

- National Poetry Month
- Sexual Assault Awareness Month

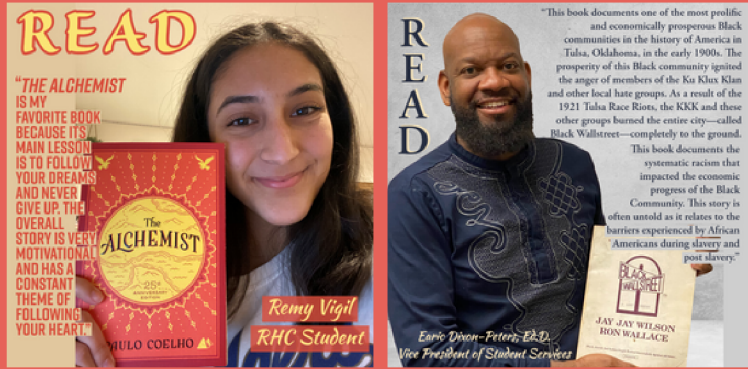
May

- Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month
- Mental Health Awareness Month
- Mother's Day
- National Pet Month

READ ACROSS AMERICA 2023

Sponsored by the National Education Association, this year's Read Across America event will take place (as usual) on March 2. Since 2019, RHC Librarian Claudia Rivas has called for volunteers to pose with their favorite books and share their thoughts about the importance of reading. Over the years, Claudia has designed dozens of READ posters, which have been shared on the Library's social media pages and website.

Since the start of the pandemic, we have asked participants to send "selfies" of themselves with their favorite books, but this semester, we are back on campus and ready to take your photo. If you would like to participate, or have any questions, please contact Claudia at crivas@riohondo.edu. We look forward to seeing your smiling faces!



Library Profiles:

Maria Carmona-Herrera Library Media Technician



Tell us about yourself.

I am the youngest of five. My family moved from Mexico to California in 1983. My parents wanted their children to have a better life than they had. After high school, I attended Rio Hondo Community College and found a job here. While working here I finished school and received a Master of Library and Information Science.

How long have you worked at Rio Hondo College?

I started at Rio Hondo College in October of 1999 as an hourly (they would call me when a staff member was going to be out on vacation). In February 2001 I was hired at 45%. In September 2011, I became a full-time employee.

What does your job consist of in the Library?

My job consists of public service (assisting patrons and college personnel with checking in/out of materials), cataloging books, receiving periodicals, and sign production.

What do you like best about working at RHC?

My coworkers, over the years they have become family. The college staff is always so cordial and eager to help.

What is one interesting thing people might not know about you?

I enjoy spending my free time watching crime tv, specifically police procedural. Shows like S.W.A.T. and 911.



Bruce Guter Part-time Librarian

Tell us about yourself.

I'm a native East Coaster, but have lived in California for over 30 years. I'm a life-long baseball (and all-sports) fan, a dog lover, avid reader, Springsteen fan, and movie watcher. I try to jog, swim, or bike just about every day. I prefer Coke to Pepsi, and never drink coffee or tea. My first Library job was way back in 1979(!). I have worked as a librarian at community colleges,

public libraries, and large public universities, in several states all around the country. My wife is also a librarian, and we first met at our college library. She was a student worker at the Circulation Desk when I went there to borrow a book.

How long have you worked at Rio Hondo College?

Almost 8 years – Beginning with the Spring Semester of 2015.

What does your job consist of in the Library?

I work primarily at the Reference Desk, helping students to find and use library information resources for their research and writing assignments. Several times a semester I might teach a class about how to effectively use the Library or conduct a workshop on any of several topics that are especially useful for student library users. Along with other Reference Librarians, I create online finding aids (*LibGuides*) that help direct students to find library resources for their classroom assignments. I also sometimes create displays in the Library that highlight new or especially worthwhile books or other resources in the Library's collection.

What do you like best about working at RHC?

I really enjoy interacting with students and with Library staff. It's always a thrill to help students find the information they need, or to help them learn to use a library resource for the first time.

What is one interesting thing people might not know about you?

I put ice in my beer!

THE FORCE IS WITH US



And we are one with the Force! For the first time in a long time, RHC's California Staff Employees Association (CSEA) chapter's annual Halloween costume contest returned last semester! For the contest, departments and offices all across campus decorate their spaces and dress up, usually according to a theme that team members in each area agree upon well before Halloween.

This year, the Library decided to do *Star Wars*, with team members dressing up as Jedi, Sith, bounty hunters, aliens, droids, Wookies, rebels, Imperials, and everything in between! Meanwhile, following a plan put forward by Library Technician Rudy Martinez, team members did a stellar job (pun intended), positively transforming the Library Circulation Desk into the deck of an Imperial Star Destroyer, complete with a space battle raging in the background and flashing computer terminals, as well as the Tatooine Cantina.

After they had visited all the contestants on campus and all was said and done, CSEA judges made their decision about a winner: RHC LIBRARY took first prize! For their creativity, Library team members enjoyed a pizza party from local favorite Rose City Pizza, courtesy of CSEA! Congratulations to these awesome team members!

LIBRARY ADMIN + FACULTY

DEAN OF LIBRARY

Mike Garabedian / ext. 3417 / mgarabedian@riohondo.edu

FULL-TIME LIBRARIANS

Robin Babou / ext. 3375 / rbabou@riohondo.edu

Young Lee / ext. 3379 / ylee@riohondo.edu

Claudia Rivas / ext. 3378 / crivas@riohondo.edu

Irene Truong / ext. 3377 / itruong@riohondo.edu

Brian Young / ext. 3376 / byoung@riohondo.edu

PART-TIME LIBRARIANS

Gabriel Beeler, Karen Bourgaize, Trish Garcia, Bruce Guter,

Lawrence Mak, Carolyn Oldham