



LIBRARY LODESTAR

HARCUM COLLEGE

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LIBRARY LOWDOWN: KEY PROFESSIONAL JOURNALS

Whatever your planned profession or area of expertise, there is a journal (or two) that will prove critical for keeping up with changes, trends and issues in your field. HC Library subscribes to many of those critical journals in the areas of health, childcare, business, design and fashion. It's not too soon to familiarize yourself with them, by practicing the art of browsing and learning how to make the best use of these priceless knowledge resources.

Here's just a sampling of what you can find in our Periodicals section. Current issues are right out front, and a librarian can bring you back issues of any title you request.

Nursing

AJN: American Journal of Nursing is the official journal of the *American Nurses Association*. Every issue contains two thorough review articles that are approved for Continuing Education (CE) credit (credit can be received by licensed nurses if they correctly complete the test at the end of the article).

These articles can be a goldmine for students, too, because they summarize the current best practices in areas such as chronic kidney disease and helping patients quit
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ABOUT OUR NAME

A lodestar is any star that is used as a point of reference (like Polaris, the brightest star in the Little Dipper). The word can also refer to a guiding interest, principle or ambition. At Harcum College Library, we aim to guide members of the Harcum Community toward what is of interest to them and to serve as a "point of reference" for information seekers.

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USE TOP TOOLS FOR NET NAVIGATION

Just about "everybody" knows how to find things on the 'net now, right? Well, maybe. Most people will start with Google or Yahoo or some other search engine they are accustomed to using. Sometimes, this strategy works brilliantly. But too often, when searching for a topic that is either very popular or very specialized, search engine forays can turn into exercises in frustration. Sometimes you find too much, and it seems impossible to wade through the dross and find the gold. Sometimes you can't seem to find what you need no matter



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Key Professional Journals

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smoking. Issues also contain columns on health news, the latest medications and emerging infections, plus editorials on wide-ranging health and professional issues. You can search back issues for topics of interest on Medline, using Am J Nurs and your topic in the search bar.



Featured in the March issue of *AJN: Nutrition in Older Adults*, a CE credit article that looks at the nutritional needs of the elderly and how problems can be assessed and addressed.

Physical Therapy

PT Magazine of Physical Therapy is the official publication of the *American Physical Therapy Association* (APTA). Feature articles cover such topics as genetic disorders, working with patients who are been “Leadership” and “Ethics.” *YC* also publishes feature articles that discuss the day-to-day practices of early experiencing family violence and the future of physical therapy as “designed by patients.” Frequently, a Board member of APTA writes an opinion piece about fundamental professional issues, such as ethics, for *PT*. Regular columns cover government policy issues and technology advances that impact the profession. Each year is indexed in the December issue of *PT*.

Featured in the March issue of *PT: Raising the Bar in Bariatric Care*, a review of techniques and equipment that facilitate physical therapy with the morbidly obese.

Veterinary Technology

Veterinary Technician is a publication of *Veterinary Learning Systems* which partners with Alfred State College, State University of NY, to provide Continuing Education credits to its subscribers by publishing review articles. These articles provide a thorough overview of important practice issues such as feline asthma, canine parvovirus and examination of reptiles. *Veterinary Technician* also publishes articles by vet techs about their experiences, ranging from working at a zoo in Africa to balancing work and family life when one’s child has a chronic illness. Each year is indexed in the December issue.

Featured in the February issue of *Veterinary Technician: Educating Clients about Preventive Dentistry*, a CE credit article describing the best ways to explain dog or cat tooth care to owners.

Dental Hygiene

RDH is a publication of PennWell and calls itself “the national magazine for dental hygiene professionals.” Each issue contains sections on practice issues (such as pain control) and career issues (such as the “paperless office” and dealing with stress). *RDH* is a lively publication with a mix of articles on all aspects of a hygiene professional’s life, from “*Treating Oral Ulcers*” to “*Helping Flossers Find the Faith*.”

Featured in the February issue of *RDH: Infection Control is a Team Effort*, which discusses how to create and implement a game plan to protect all staff and patients.

Early Childhood Education

Young Children (YC) is published by the *National Association for the Education of Young Children* to promote professional growth. Every issue has a theme — recent themes have childhood educators (dramatic play, books in the classroom, early math learning) or that present some of the larger issues of the field (children with separation problems, the latest research on child development). An annual index is printed in the January issue for the preceding volume year and a searchable index is available at www.journal.naeyc.org/search

Featured in the March issue of *YC: Kindergarten and Beyond*, a series of articles that feature teachers who are using children’s natural interests (in play, in animals and in books) to create classrooms which are engaging for children and also promote high standards of learning.

Keeping up with the latest developments in your field and finding articles about topics that interest you are easy once you identify the journal or magazine that best matches your focus. Come take a look at our periodicals section to find other titles. **In next month’s Lodestar, we will feature periodicals about business and design.**



What's Up? Meet Michele Dougherty, Cataloger

Michele has lived in this area (Delaware and Chester Counties) all her life. However, like many "book people," she has supplemented her physical travels (to Europe) with the kind of mental traveling that reading and learning provide. Her journey through life began with a childhood in Upper Darby, PA and continued at St. Joseph's University, where she majored in History and minored in Medieval Studies. Michele (who is of Irish descent on both sides) has traveled to England and Ireland several times, where she was able to visit sites of historic significance and fascination, from the 5,000-year-old mysteries of Newgrange, a Stone Age "passage tomb" monument, to the 16th Century home of Shakespeare at Stratford-on-Avon.

She was also able to take in modern England -- off the beaten track -- while visiting her sister who lived for several years in the village of Much Hadham, Hertfordshire. Politics aside, Michele is enamored of many things British, particularly tea, scones and the Beatles.

After graduating from St. Joe's, Michele used her gift for organization and thoroughness to embark on a career in legal records, starting at the large Center City law firm Pepper, Hamilton. There, she was responsible for keeping legal files in order, helping to institute new methods (including central filing and off-site storage) and performing the "conflict checks" that all attorneys must have done before they take a new case (checking for any possible conflict of interest).

After 10 years with Pepper, she moved on to a library position at another major Philadelphia law firm (Fox, Rothschild) where she worked in their library as a serials assistant and cataloger. Graduate library studies soon followed, and Michele received her MS from Drexel in 1999.

Michele has been the Cataloger at HC Library for almost four years. All library resources need to be cataloged (and sometimes removed from the catalog)—books, periodicals, videotapes, software, and A-V equipment. And the catalog record must also indicate the place where the resource belongs, whether on reserve, in reference, in the stacks, or elsewhere. Michele also serves as the scheduler of A-V equipment re-

quests, making sure that the library staff know in advance who needs what, when and where!

Michele has had some interesting changes in her life recently. Shortly after moving with her family into a house in Strafford, she adopted two homeless tabby brothers, Riley and Regis. The lads are still kittens, but Michele seems endlessly tolerant of their antics. She's always been a cat lover, and an animal lover in general, which is one reason why she follows a meatless diet.



Michele Studying *The Legacy of the Cat*

When she's looking for more escapist reading, she enjoys legal thrillers. A recent favorite was *The Broker* (F GRI) by John Grisham, about a powerful lawyer who has dabbled in too many international secrets to live safely, even in an out-of-the way Italian town.

Michele is looking forward to spring (aren't we all?), so she can get a garden started at her new place. You may not want to talk about the ins and outs of cataloging rules, but if you are one of Harcum's many animal lovers (or many legal thriller lovers), you'll enjoy a wee chat with Michele the next time you stop by the library.

Check out our web site!
<http://www.harcum.edu/library>

Vital Statistics

How to Contact us

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Library Hours for 2005

Monday-Thursday: 8 am to 10 pm
Friday: 8 am to 4:30 pm
Saturday: noon to 4 pm
Sunday: 1 pm to 5 pm, 6 pm to 9 pm

Hours may change during Holidays and between semesters

Net Navigation

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what search terms you type in. But you can pinpoint your navigation by using tools that have been designed to help you find high-quality information on the topic you are seeking.

One tool that can become a regular in your bag of search tricks is a web site created by librarians to make web navigation easy and fairly painless. It's called **The Internet Public Library** (www.ipl.org) and it is run as a public service by the Michigan University School of Information. Much like a bricks and mortar library, it is divided into sections by the nature of the information you seek.

Go to the "**Ready Reference**" section to find online dictionaries, encyclopedias, style guides and even a section on "how-to" web sites that can lead you to such places as a site on "how to clean anything" and a site that lets you search for online tutorials. Look under "**Reading Room**" to be directed to sites like Bibliomania or Project Gutenberg that link you to thousands of *free* online texts including classics, reference works and study guides. There's a children's section (called "**KidSpace**") and "**Special Collections**," where you can find indexes of top-rated (by librarians) blogs and online multimedia presentations.

Want to find the *best* sites (as chosen by librarians, educators and editors using a "rigorous procedure") in important areas like career guides, money management or endangered

species? HC Library has a hardcopy resource called **Web Feet**, a constantly updated set of loose-leaf notebooks where you can look up your topic by subject area, using its table of contents or its detailed index. It is kept at the Reference Librarian's desk, opposite the library's front door.

Under "**Careers**" you'll find several sites that teach resume writing and interview skills, plus **jobprofiles.org** where you can read profiles written by people who are successful in a number of jobs, both common and unusual, from flight nurse to forest ranger and from kindergarten teacher to clothing store manager. If you're looking for easy to understand advice about budgeting, saving, investing and taxes the "**Money Management**" section will lead you to **thebeehive.org**. The more financially sophisticated will want to look at **investoreducation.org** where you can find information on investing basics, stocks, mutual funds and even common scams, right at your fingertips. Both of these sites are projects of non-profit organizations with no hidden agendas. If your concerns are more global, "**Endangered Species**" lists a number of sites where you can find information about threatened animals and habitats, including **world-wildlife.org**, where you can find straightforward, concise information on topics like forest conservation and ocean rescue.

If you're ready to become a master searcher, you will want to browse the monthly newsletter "**Info to Go**" which you can find in HC Library. We keep the recent issues in the "Computer Information" section of Periodicals (across from the Circulation desk). In a concise twelve-page format, the newsletter gets right to the point with lists of web sites by categories (like health, government and homeland security) and "**hot topics**" (like charitable giving, computer viruses and the latest census data). Even if you only look at the cover page, you'll find the most useful current resources listed each month on topics like "Keeping up to date with Search Engines," "Resources for Information Literacy," and "Federal and State Tax Resources" (in the January 2005 issue).



The Internet is a constantly changing, frequently surprising, sometimes deceptive source of knowledge, news and opinion. Time spent honing your skills and discovering ways to keep up to date is time well spent, and will probably save you time and frustration in the long run.