

Podcast 2 Transcript: Do we have this book?

This is Randall Bowman, and I'm speaking with Betty Garrison about Interlibrary Loan. Betty, I have found just the book I need for my paper but I can't find it in the catalog. What do I do?

The best thing to do is ask the librarian at the information desk to double check to see if we have the book. You can either come to the information desk, call a librarian at 278-6599, or IM a librarian at askbelk.

What can I do if I find a book that the library does not own?

If you need the book really quickly like by tomorrow you can drive to the nearest library and use it or possibly even check it out.

Is there a way that I can see the books that other libraries own?

Yes you can! We have access to a great database called WorldCat. You can find the link by going to the first page of the library website. Look at the section called Quick Links. Worldcat is an online catalog of all the books from libraries around the world. It is a great tool to use to expand your research beyond Belk Library. In WorldCat you just type in the title of the book you want and you will see a list of the closest libraries that own the book. You can also search by author.

Ok great, what if the book is in a library located near Elon?

As an Elon student you can get a public library card to check out items from the public libraries in Alamance County. You can also check out books from the colleges and universities in Alamance County, Guilford County, and Forsyth County. Check with the librarian at the information desk and they can help you with locations of these libraries.

But what if the book is located far away like in another state?

No need to worry! We can get the book for you through the service called Interlibrary Loan or ILL. It generally takes about a week for the book to arrive. But you do not have to do anything other than complete the online form. The ILL form is located in the Research Center section on our website. Click on Interlibrary Loan.

Will I need to know anything specific about the book? Do I need to list the libraries that have the book? How long can I keep the book?

Good questions. In order to process your request as quickly as possible it is a good idea to know the title, author, and publishing information about the book. You will receive an email when the book has arrived. You can pick it up at the circulation desk in the library. Generally you can keep ILL books for about 4 weeks.

Will the service cost me anything?

No you will not be charged anything and you can request as many books as you need for your research.

Wow! Is there anything else I need to know about ILL?

Well . . . since you asked you can also use the same service to request journal articles that are not available in print or online in Belk Library.

That sounds great, Betty. Now I just need to dive into the researching!