

ASL LIBRARY NEWS

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What's New in the Library?

- The Thanksgiving Break holiday is almost here! We will have more limited hours during that period, as many students tend to trade out textbooks for turkey.

	Circulation/Reserve Desk	Card Access
Saturday, November 21	not staffed	10 am – 6 pm
Sunday, November 22	not staffed	2 pm – 10 pm
Monday, November 23	9 am – 5 pm	6 am – 10 pm
Tuesday, November 24	9 am – 5 pm	6 am – 10 pm
Wednesday, November 25	9 am – noon	6 am – noon
Thursday, November 26	not staffed	no access
Friday, November 27	not staffed	10 am – 10 pm
Saturday, November 28	not staffed	10 am – 10 pm

- Immediately after Thanksgiving is over, we move into the exam weeks. Beginning the night of Sunday, November 29, the Library will offer card access to the building until 2 am (instead of the normal midnight closing). This extended access will end on the last day of exams: Friday, December 11, at 5 pm. If you've lost your ID card, stop by the Circulation/Reserve Desk during normal business hours with \$5 (cash/check) for a replacement.
- As a reminder: please be aware that our group study rooms are not dining areas. Food isn't allowed in the Library – we've had infestations of mice and creepy crawlies in prior years. Tobacco use is also prohibited in the Library, which includes smokeless tobacco and the associated "spit cups." We're not sure if those get rid of mice, but they sure are repellent to us.
- As you begin to prepare for finals, don't forget about the many CALI (Center for Computer-Assisted Learning Instruction) tutorials available online, for free! You should have registered during Orientation, but if you procrastinated, you can still register now at <http://www.cali.org/> with our school's authorization code of **[not in online version!]** (which is case-sensitive). There have been ten new lessons created just since school started, in addition to the 900+ that were already there, so there's bound to be something on a legal topic that's been stumping you.

Other News

- It won't be long before it's colder and darker – which are perfect conditions for studying in the Library, perhaps – and that means it's time to change the clocks again. Don't forget to "fall back" one hour on the first Sunday of November, which this year happens to be the first day of the month. You're also encouraged to replace your smoke detector batteries, plus you should check your carbon monoxide detector if you have one of those.
- The American Bar Association recently announced that they would be offering free memberships to all law students. This membership gets you a subscription to two of their magazines, plus access to a job board and monthly webinars. It's great for networking, as well. Enroll online at <http://www.americanbar.org/abalawstudents>

Of course, you might also consider joining the bar association in the state (or locality) in which you intend to practice. Many have free or reduced-rate memberships for law students. For example, the voluntary Virginia Bar Association (http://www.vba.org/?=page=new_lawyers_students) promotes a free membership during law school and the first year of admission. While the official Virginia State Bar doesn't have a special category for law students, they do have a fair listing of "practice resources and information" a first-year attorney might want to review (<http://www.vsb.org/site/members/first-year-in-practice-resources-and-information>).

- Election Day is Tuesday, November 3. If you're voting in Grundy, the House of Delegates seat and the Senate seat are both up for election, although the two incumbents are running unopposed. Also up for election are the county's constitutional officers (sheriff, commonwealth attorney, clerk of court, and some financial positions), plus all the members of the board of supervisors and the school board. To find out what names are on the ballot – either here in Grundy or anywhere else in Virginia – you can go to the Virginia Department of Elections' web site at <http://elections.virginia.gov/> If you are currently registered to vote in another state, but want to vote here in Virginia in the upcoming presidential primary (March 1, 2016), you can go to that same web site to register online.
- Speaking of elections, one trending topic that may appear over the next few weeks is the "ballot selfie" or "voting selfie." A majority of states have a law that prohibits taking photographs of a marked ballot, usually to deter vote selling. A few recent court decisions from New Hampshire and Indiana have struck down these laws on free speech grounds. Since this still isn't a settled area of law, please be cautious when using social media to record your voting activities. We found a slightly-older state-by-state comparison chart on this topic at <http://www.dmlp.org/state-law-documenting-vote-2012>

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