

## How Library Stuff Works Videos: Welcome to Mills Memorial Library

Hello! And welcome to Mills Memorial Library. I'm going to take you on a tour so you can become familiar with some of the services and resources available to you through the library.

Let's start on the first floor.

Here's the Service Desk. Here you can get research help, check out books, pick up Course Reserves and holds, and ask any general library questions you might have.

Now let's head down to the archives.

*The William Ready Division of Archives and Special Collections* is a collection of diaries, letters, manuscripts, and books. The oldest book in the collection is from the year 1150! We also have a Nobel Peace Prize which belongs to famous philosopher and activist Bertrand Russell.

Archives and Special Collections are open to the public from 9am to 5pm from Monday to Friday.

Although a great deal of the archive's materials have been digitized, many documents can only be looked at physically. The archive is a little bit different from a library. Since the materials can be rare, or fragile, you have to put in a request for a staff member to retrieve the item for you. You'll need to give yourself lots of time to retrieve and examine the material. Sometimes documents can be difficult to decipher, and you can't take any of these items outside of the archive.

Back upstairs let's visit the Map Library.

This is the *Lloyd Reeds Map Collection*- it's one of the largest collections in North America.

The collection is full of paper maps, atlases, books, air photos, and antique maps with the oldest map going back to 1486. The map collection at McMaster is the largest collection of World War One trench maps and aerial photographs next to Library and Archives Canada. This is one of the reasons why it is used not just by people from McMaster, but also the wider Hamilton community, and people from around the world.

This centre also serves the GIS and Data needs of our community. GIS stands for Geographic Information Systems. These programs allow for the visualization and interpretation of geographic relationships, patterns, and trends. The centre also has computers with cartographical and statistical software for students to work on data and GIS projects of their own. We even have our own data specialist here at Mac who can help you get personal access to and assistance with data from the census, Statistics Canada, and other various sources.

Also on the first floor of Mills is the *Lewis and Ruth Sherman Centre for Digital Scholarship*. Here are workspaces with computers, communal learning and meeting rooms. The Sherman Centre also hosts a Hackerspace complete with Linux and Windows-based Arduino workstations, Raspberry Pi workstations and 3D printers. Among other things, the Sherman Centre supports research, provides resources, and offers technical support and consulting services for digital scholarship projects such as programming, data management, and systems administration.

Up on the second floor you'll find the *Popular Reading Collection*. Here you'll find mostly fictional books in a wide variety of genres like graphic novels, young adult fiction, and thrillers.

Standing close to the Popular Reading Collection is the *Learning Commons*. This is an active, student-centred learning space for collaborative work. There's some group study space and computers with basic software installed. The Learning Commons are open 24/7 during exams, and until 2am the rest of the school year.

The third floor of Mills hosts more group and individual study spaces, as well as our collection of print journals and government publications.

Let's head up to the fourth floor. Here you'll find CDs, books, and quiet study areas- including a graduate student study space.

The fourth floor also hosts *Lyons's New Media Centre*. Lyons is a space to be used for media creation. There are all sorts of things you can do here: Use programs like Photoshop, or Premier Pro, to edit photos and other media projects, film videos against a green screen, as well as signing out cameras, video games, and controllers. There is a room here that exists expressly for the purpose of playing video games. You can also use the Lyons 3D printers by submitting a printing request online.

If you want you can head up to the fifth and sixth floors of Mills to find more books and study zones. Mills has designated plenty of areas with different noise levels for students to find the right environment for optimum productivity.

Mills Library has something to offer everyone. Come for a visit and take advantage of the many different services we have to offer you. You're always welcome. We hope to see you soon!