

University of Adelaide Library

Podcast 1: The top 3 things to know about the Library



Welcome to the University of Adelaide Library podcast series. This is podcast number one, the top 3 things to know about the library. In this podcast Rebecca and Ursula discuss the top 3 things they wish they had known when they were studying.

U: Hi, my name is Ursula

R:... and I'm Rebecca

U: and we're new staff members of the Barr Smith Library.

R: today we're going to have a chat about the top 3 things about the library that we wish we'd known while we were studying.

U: Yes, it would have made my life MUCH easier! So, what's your Number one?

R: I wish I'd discovered that the library was actually a really good place to study. I'd always assumed that it was a place of daggy carrels and no talking, no eating, no drinking!

U: It's true, I'm the same. I was surprised to find out that there's loads of group discussion areas, and that you can bring coffee into the library!

R: ... and I also heard that there's a whole new student lounge happening?

U: yep... couches, laptop study spots, vending machines for a chocolate fix... did I mention couches?

R: You certainly did! But what happens if you need some quiet space to finish off that assignment?

U: You mean the one that's due tomorrow?

R: Yeah, that's the one!

U: .. then we have the Reading Room, which is the grand old part of the library. When you walk in you can virtually feel the ghosts of examinations past.

R: It actually makes you WANT to study, if you can believe that! So what do you reckon is the second thing that you wish you'd know about the library?

U: Hmmm... that's a tough one. But I think that it is the fact that you can get help from a real, live human!

R: Isn't that a given?

U: Well, you'd think so, but when you're used to standing around in a hold queue, or reading through scrolls of online Help FAQs, it's nice to know that I can ask a real person for assistance. I mean, during semester, there's help available from 9am till 10pm!

R: That's impressive!

U: I agree! But now, what is the third thing that you wish you'd know about the library when you were studying?

R: I wish I hadn't relied on Google so much!

U: What, there are other options?

R: Most definitely. Better options even!

U: Wow! I need to hear about this.

R: Well, you know with Google, you get some good results but you also get millions of crap results. Looking through all the results took me ages. And when I found something useful, they often asked me to pay for it. I'm a student – I don't have any money. But then I discovered..

U: What...tell me, tell me!

R: ... that the library had a whole range of "non-Google Googles", that is, a whole range of databases that contained information on what I was studying.

U: so you'd search a database, the same as you would Google, but it only had information on your subject? No dodgy?

R: that's right. No dodgy to sift through... nothing! Just a whole lotta academically approved papers and articles that looked fantastic on my reference list, with much less time and effort than trying to use Google.

U: Hey... that does sound pretty good. How do I go about accessing the non google Googles (or "databases", in library speak)?

R: From the library website... but that's a whole other podcast!

U: Well that nicely wraps up our top 3: the library is a great place to study (with coffee), that there are real live people that you can ask for help, and that you shouldn't wait until 3rd year to discover the wonders of the non-Google, Google or database.

R: Thanks for listening and we will see you next time!

U: See you!

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