So, why not just use Google or Wikipedia for your research needs? While these sites can provide you with good information, it may not be the best information. Google, Wikipedia, and other sites such as these are easy to use and you probably already know all about them — how to find them, how to search them, how to get to the resources you need, etc.

I would like to stress to you the importance of using the Library’s resources. First, our resources and databases are reviewed for quality and for the appropriateness for the courses we teach here at JSU. They contain articles that were written by experts in their fields and then reviewed by an editorial board for each journal before being accepted and published. The second reason is that you have helped pay for some of these resources with your tuition, so why not use them?

The basic reason many students, staff, and faculty do not use our databases is because they can be intimidating — at least at first. We know and understand this, which is why we are all here to help you. If you would like help getting started using our resources for your research, please don’t hesitate to call on us. We are here for you and are ready to help you with your research and help you get started!

For more information or to obtain help with your research, contact Jodi Poe, Distance Education Librarian, at jpo@jsu.edu.

Meet the Staff

John-Bauer Graham, Dean of Library Services

Mr. John-Bauer Graham was appointed Jacksonville State University’s Dean of Library Services, effective March 1, 2008. Reporting to the Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, the Dean is responsible for all aspects of Houston Cole Library, including providing library services for JSU programs at McClellan and Gadsden and for distance education students worldwide.

John holds the BA degree from Auburn University, the MA from Jacksonville State University, and the MLIS from the University of Alabama, where he currently is completing his dissertation for the doctorate in Higher Education Administration. He previously served at Houston Cole Library as Department Head—Public Services, Instruction Coordinator/General Reference Librarian, Technical Assistant, and Circulation Assistant. He has written extensively on librarianship and in 2005 he received the Alabama Library Association’s Outstanding Publications Award. He currently serves on the editorial board of the Journal of Academic Librarianship, one of the most respected publications in the discipline.

To contact John, please email jgraham@jsu.edu or call 256-782-5255.
Do You Know About?

This section will highlight services or resources that you may not be aware we offer.

Do you know about our universal borrowing service? You may know it under a different name — ALLIES!

ALLIES is the ALabama LIbraries Exchange Service. This is a partnership between the following Alabama academic universities:

* Auburn University
* Auburn University at Montgomery
* Jacksonville State University
* University of Alabama
* University of Alabama at Birmingham

ALLIES allows our users to place a request for materials from these libraries through our catalog at http://library.jsu.edu/. In addition, you can physically go to one of these libraries and check out materials as long as you have your JSU student ID.

Please contact Jodi Poe, Distance Education Librarian, at jpoej@jsu.edu or 256-782-8103 for more information.

Reference Services

JSU students and faculty who need assistance on how to search particular databases, how to prepare bibliographic citations for papers and projects, how to evaluate sources, or other questions should call the Houston Cole Library Reference Desk at 1-800-231-5291 (JAX1), (256) 782-8034, or email a reference librarian. The Library’s web-based catalog is available from the University’s website at http://library.jsu.edu/. JSU students, faculty, and staff with an active ID number can access the Library's web-based indexes and full-text articles.

Do you need help with your research? Do you need help with the Library in general? The JSU Library staff is here to help!

Library Instruction

Library faculty are available (in person, via telecommunications, etc.) to provide instruction to JSU students. In fact, we encourage these types of sessions!

If you are interested in scheduling an instruction session, please contact Mr. John-Bauer Graham, Dean of Library Services, at 256-782-5248, jgraham@jsu.edu, or via our online form at http://www.jsu.edu/depart/library/graphic/biform.htm.

Learning to use the library is an essential life-long learning tool. Both information technologies and library literacy will continue to play a dominant role in your education, career, and world experiences. The JSU Library staff looks forward to serving our students and faculty and providing them with this knowledge.
**Receiving Library Materials**

Do you need a journal article or book for a research project? The Library can help you with that.

Did you know that you can receive printed materials from the Library? If we own a book you need, we can mail the book to you. The only requirements are that you live outside of Calhoun County (the county in which JSU is located) and that you are responsible for returning the book by the due date.

If you need a journal article that is not available through one of our databases, we can also deliver that to you, either through email or regular mail.

For more detailed information, see the *Document Delivery* section of the Distance Education Services Policy page at http://www.jsu.edu/depart/library/graphic/DEPolicy.pdf.

Distance education students and/or faculty who wish to obtain materials from the Library’s printed collection should use the *Document Delivery Request Form* at http://www.jsu.edu/depart/library/graphic/deform.htm or contact Ms. Jodi Poe, Distance Education/Electronic Resources Manager at 1-800-231-5291 (JAX1), 256-782-8103, or jpoe@jsu.edu.

**Connecting to Resources Remotely**

Distance education students and faculty can access the Library’s electronic resources (databases, ejournals, ebooks, etc.) from off campus through an authentication process. The process is fairly simple. When you click on the link for one of our resources, you will be prompted for your JSU student/faculty ID and your last name. If you have any problems accessing our resources remotely, please contact Ms. Jodi Poe, Distance Education/Electronic Resources Manager at 1-800-231-5291 (JAX1), 256-782-8103, or jpoe@jsu.edu.

**Services for Faculty**

The Houston Cole Library offers a variety of services and resources to assist JSU faculty teaching distance education courses. These include electronic course reserves, remote access to journals, reference assistance, and instruction. The librarians can work closely with you to design assignments, customized web pages, and online interactive tutorials tailored to your course. We are familiar with Blackboard and would welcome the opportunity to become embedded in your course. We can provide reference assistance, research assistance, and/or instruction through videoconferencing and/or virtual chats or discussion boards. Further, we are available to assist faculty members in incorporating online resources into your courses, which will provide your students with a comprehensive learning experience. To find out more about incorporating the library and online resources into your courses, contact Ms. Jodi Poe, Distance Education/Electronic Resources Manager at 1-800-231-5291 (JAX1), 256-782-8103, or jpoe@jsu.edu.
Mission Statement

The mission of the Houston Cole Library is to provide information services and bibliographic resources to support the scholarly and informational needs of the University community. In doing so, the Library strives to reflect the curriculum first, with secondary emphasis on faculty research and statewide resource sharing. The Library serves students, faculty, administration, and staff of the University. It also makes its resources available to the local community, businesses, schools, and Alabama libraries, thereby contributing to the educational, cultural, and economic well-being of the area. It is an integral part of the Academic Affairs Division and reports to the Vice-President. Librarians work in partnership with the academic departments to enhance the learning experience outside the classroom. Library instruction, reference, database searching, circulation of books and reserve materials, interlibrary borrowing, and audio-visual services contribute directly to the faculty's pedagogic success. Materials acquisitions and cataloging build the Library's collections and make them accessible to its clientele.

Eligibility for Library Resources and Services

All students currently enrolled in a distance education course offered by Jacksonville State University are eligible for distance education services offered through the Houston Cole Library. The only limitation involves document delivery. Document delivery is only available to distance education students who live outside of Calhoun County.

All faculty and staff involved with a distance education course offered by Jacksonville State University are eligible for distance education services offered through the Houston Cole Library.

Detailed information about our resources and services can be found at http://www.jsu.edu/depart/library/graphic/distance.htm.

Contact Us

If you need to contact us, here are some of the ways:

**Phone**
Reference Assistance
1-800-231-5291
256-782-8034

Distance Education Librarian
Jodi Poe
256-782-8103

**Email**
Ask-A-Question
http://www.jsu.edu/depart/library/graphic/ask.htm

Distance Education Librarian
jpoе@jsu.edu

**JSU Library Homepage**
http://www.jsu.edu/depart/library/

Images of the JSU Library were provided by Steve Latham, JSU Photographer.

Image of computer on first page provided by Free Images—Free Stock Photos at http://www.freeimages.co.uk/index.htm

Image of computer with coffee cup provided by YotoPhoto at http://yotophoto.com/.

All other images were provided by the JSU Library Staff.