

# REGENSTEIN, MANSUETO, AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS SELF-GUIDED TOUR

## WELCOME TO REGENSTEIN LIBRARY!

The Joseph Regenstein Library is home to over 4.5 million print volumes focusing on subjects in the humanities and social sciences, as well as business, divinity, and area studies. It is seven stories tall—so navigating the building alone can be a little confusing. Use this handout as a guide to finding notable collections and spaces in the Reg. If you have any questions while exploring, please ask a librarian.



### FIRST FLOOR

As you enter the library, walk through the entry control gate, and take a look around! The first floor of the library was renovated in 2011, removing a large portion of the reference collections to add computers, as well as a student-run Café.

To your immediate right is the Library's circulation desk, where students can borrow books from the Library. This desk circulates about 250 thousand books a year.

In the rear right corner is the Library's student-run Café, Ex-Libris. The coffee shop is a very popular spot for students, selling more than any other student-run coffee shop on campus.

To your left, you will see the Ask a Librarian/Reference Desk. Reference librarians staff this desk to help answer research questions for students, faculty, and staff.

On your immediate left, you'll see a hallway. We'll go down there a little later. For the time being, walk through the double doors to the elevators, and take one up the 5<sup>th</sup> floor.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

### 5<sup>th</sup> FLOOR

The 5<sup>th</sup> floor is home to the Library's East Asia and Middle East collection. These are two of the many area studies collections, which have books, magazines, and films in languages used in a specific region of the world. The East Asia Collection is recognized as one of the most comprehensive and distinctive East Asian Collections in North America. Browse the stacks in the East Asian Reading room as you please!

After browsing, walk down the stairs to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Library.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR

As you exit the stairwell and enter the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Library, you will be walking into the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor reading room. Each floor of the library, excluding the first and B-level, are split into sections: Reading Rooms and Bookstacks. The Library's Reading Room is a quiet study area for students, faculty, and staff. Each Reading Room has special study features for students, such as electrified study carrels, lockers for rent, and group study rooms available for reservation.

The Reading Rooms also have a small number of book stacks with books in the library's reference collection, or special format collections. Notice if you walk into the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor reading room, you will encounter a wall of DVDs available for students to borrow, and even further back, the library's Microform Collection. However, most of the library's collections are available in the Bookstacks, which can be accessed by walking down a hallway next to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor service desk.

Once you've explored the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, feel free to navigate down the center stairway to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, or take the elevator or stairs down to the A-Level.

## A-LEVEL

The Regenstein Library A-Level is an inviting and attractive collaborative learning environment where students, faculty, academic technologists, and librarians can interact. An open group work area was created in the center of the room. Around this central zone, 10 new collaboration rooms have been constructed. Their walls are covered in clear dry erase paint and can be used as whiteboards.

Along the north side, there is a new terrazzo floor with café-style seating. This space provides users with inspiring views of the Block Garden, and brings in a large amount of light into the library's lower level.

After browsing the A-level, take the stairs up to the first floor. We'll be visiting the Special Collections Research Center and Mansueto Library.

**AFTER WALKING UP THE STAIRS, WALK DOWN THE HALLWAY TO YOUR RIGHT.**

## SPECIAL COLLECTIONS RESEARCH CENTER

Special Collections is the University of Chicago Library's center for rare books, manuscripts, and archives. The collections currently include 340,000 rare books dating from the beginning of printing in Western Europe in the 15th century to the present. Special Collections Research Center features notable collections in the extraordinary gallery space you see to your left.



As you continue walking down the hallway, you will walk into the 'knuckle,' which serves as the entrance to Mansueto Library.

## MANSUETO LIBRARY

Mansueto Library includes a Grand Reading Room, where students can work under a soaring elliptical glass dome with views of the historic UChicago campus.

The Mansueto Library can hold the equivalent of 3.5 million volumes in its high-density automated storage and retrieval system (ASRS). When users request an item, a robotic crane retrieves the material within minutes.

