

Resources for Study

DRAKE TELEMEDIA CENTER (DTC)

Located in the lower level of Meredith Hall, the Drake TeleMedia Center provides audio/visual (A/V) equipment to Drake faculty and staff, as well as the following services:

- Video and multimedia production
- DVD authoring and burning
- Electronic classroom design and installation
- Technology training
- Audio/Video teleconferencing

DTC is also the central programming point for The College Channel, seen citywide on cable channel 46. Residence Life Cinema and CampusNet teletext, both on-campus cable services, are also programmed and maintained by DTC. DTC provides multimedia and IT support to the School of Journalism and Mass Communication and the College of Business and Public Administration.

LIBRARIES

Cowles Library (<http://www.lib.drake.edu/>), the main library for the University, is an integral part of the learning experience for Drake students. Library collections and services serve as a primary resource for course work and research, and for the development of student information literacy skills. Librarians and staff are available to assist individual users, and offer a variety of instructional opportunities, including Library 046, a course designed to promote effective use of information resources and critical thinking.

The library is both a repository of content and a gateway to a vast array of print and electronic information. The collections include more than 550,000 books and journals, 94,000 federal and state government documents, 777,000 microform records, 80 electronic databases and approximately 16,000 scholarly online journals. The collections also include DVDs and music CDs, as well as a digital repository of scholarship and historical material unique to Drake. The library also provides interlibrary loan and document delivery services to obtain materials not owned by the library.

The library Web site serves as a portal to the online catalog and subject sources, including a wide variety of databases, indexes, full-text electronic journals, encyclopedias and other reference tools. Assistance can also be obtained through the Ask a Librarian virtual reference service. All of these services are accessible through the campus computer network, and to off campus users enrolled at Drake.

The building features an Information Commons that provides technology and service support, and a variety of different types of study spaces, including a grand reading room that has recently been restored. A wireless network supports laptop computer access to the Drake network from any seat in the library.

OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Office of Information Technology (OIT) supports the computing and networking needs of the University. Students use desktop and laptop computers, computer labs, central computing facilities and the campus network as regular components of their studies at Drake. Access to these information technology (IT) resources is available to all Drake students, and they are often required to use them as part of their classwork.

The University data network provides access from all residence hall rooms and faculty and staff offices to central computing resources and a variety of library and information resources. Some buildings also have wireless access, and many more academic and student spaces will have access by September 2005. Drake's connection to the Internet provides access to the World Wide Web and a wealth of off-campus resources. Students use the network to seek information, conduct research, complete assignments and communicate with other computer users and libraries on campus and around the world. Students who do not own computers or who live off campus may use computer laboratories (with Macintosh and Windows machines) in a number of campus buildings.

OIT provides a variety of other services to students, as listed on the student page of the OIT Web site (<http://www.drake.edu/it/students.html>). Online services include course registration, address and phone

number changes, checking grades, etc. Other services include access to discounted computer purchases, Microsoft Office software (for students working toward a degree) at no charge, and access to a Multimedia Development Studio. OIT also offers e-mail, Web hosting for student groups and a HelpDesk located in Carnegie Hall. Training in the use of Drake's IT resources and standard software is offered periodically.

OIT operates the Blackboard course management system, used by many faculty to provide online course materials and learning environments. Many classrooms have equipment that allows faculty to present multimedia learning materials. A server provides access to the UNIX operating system with software for computer science instruction.

Other IT services at Drake are provided by the libraries, the Drake Telemedia Center and IT staff in individual colleges and schools.