

LUC WRITING CENTER –
“INTERDISCIPLINARY AVENUES FOR STUDENT RESEARCH”

Many options for academic research and support are available to LUC students both through the **university** and through **local or external organizations**. The following links provide brief summaries of the opportunities offered by local research institutions. Use this list as a starting place for originating and funding your own research. Also make sure to consult **professors** in your field for more information about **fellowships and awards** available to students in your major or at your current level of education.

Remember that often the historical, literary, or scientific archives needed to complete your project are located at institutions outside your state or country. In this case, don't despair! Applying for a **research grant** to fund your travel to these archives can ensure that your research is satisfactorily completed. Failing this, often archivists at these institutions have already **digitized** the information you need to consult or can **scan** and email the sources you need upon request.

LUC Research Options:

- **LUC Archives & Special Collections: Archives & Special Collections** holds over 8,500 linear feet of collections including Loyola records; Catholic collections; the papers of Samuel Insull and several of his employees and companies; faculty, staff, and alumni papers; and political papers. The rare book collection is also part of Special Collections and currently contains approximately 13,000 volumes with strengths in the areas of religion, philosophy, history, literature, and the history of medicine. Of particular note is the **Edward A. Cudahy Jesuitica Collection**, which includes a first edition of St. Ignatius Loyola's *Spiritual Exercises* as well as volumes on Jesuit missions and books by Jesuit scientists; the **Charles A. Whittingham Chiswick Press collection**; and the **Michalak Collection**, which includes the 19th century British satire and caricature collection and the Edward Gorey collection.
- **LUC Libraries: The LUC Libraries** has two Chicago locations, **Cudahy Library** (Lake Shore Campus) located in the **Information Commons** and **Lewis Library** (WaterTower Campus) located on the 6th-9th floors of Corboy Law Center. Besides the library books available for check-out in these locations, LUC Libraries has an **Interlibrary Loan service** through WorldCat. On the LUC Libraries website are hundreds of digital databases in all arts, sciences, and technological fields of study providing access to films, articles, primary sources such as novels and textbooks. On the home-screen, students and instructors can access research guides by subject that can prove a useful starting point for a research essay.
- **LUROP Research Opportunities: The Loyola Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program** website lists opportunities for undergraduate researchers in all fields. Participation in research can take a variety of forms including volunteering to help a faculty member, working part-time on or off campus, participating in a LUROP fellowship, or undertaking a summer fellowship at another university or research institution.

Chicago Research Options:

- **The Newberry Library: The Newberry**, open to the public without charge, is an independent research library dedicated to the advancement and dissemination of knowledge, especially in the humanities. The Newberry acquires and preserves a broad

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array of special collections research materials relating to the civilizations of Europe and the Americas.

- **Harold Washington Library:** Located in the South Loop, **Harold Washington Library Center** is **Chicago Public Library's** main library. The **Special Collections and Preservation Division**, on the 9th floor of the Harold Washington Library Center, showcases rare and unique materials focusing on Chicago as well as the Civil War.
- **Northwestern University Libraries:** LUC Libraries has reciprocal borrowing privileges with many Chicago-area university libraries, including nearby Northwestern University located in Evanston. If you can't access a book through LUC Libraries' resources, consult NU's library catalogue. Other NU archive collections include **Government & Geographic Information, Herskovits Library of African Studies, the Math Library, McCormick Library of Special Collections, and Pritzker Legal Research Center.**
- **UIC Library and Special Collections:** UIC's **Daley Library** holds the **Special Collections and University Archives**, which houses rare books and printed materials, manuscript collections, and university archives, specializing in the history of Chicago.
- **The University of Chicago Libraries:** This is the 10th largest research library in North America, boasting 11.6 million volumes in print and electronic form, 63,800 linear feet of archives and manuscripts, and 178 terabytes of born-digital archives, digitized collections, and research data. The **Special Collections Research Center** is home to the Library's rare books, manuscripts, and the **University of Chicago Archives.**

Funding Aid:

- **LUC's Office of Research Services.** **ORS** assists faculty and students at the Lake Shore and Water Tower campuses with externally funded research, training, and public service projects.
- **LUC Student Research and Funding Opportunities:** These opportunities include **Financial Assistance and Funding** for graduate students through LUC, **Lists of External Grants and Fellowship for Graduate Students**, the **Research Incentive Program for Graduate Students (RIAGS)**, the **Research Mentoring Program (RMP)**, and **LUC Research Funding Requests.**