Academic Support
Library
i. Fazal-I-Hussain Library
ii. Postgraduate Library
iii. Life Sciences Library
iv. Departmental Libraries
v. Centre for Special Students

Libraries support education efforts by using conventional and electronic modes through the provision of teaching resources, space for tutoring and information and referral services side by side playing a momentous role to fulfill the information needs of library clients and assist them to pursue for academic excellence as set in the GCU vision that is one of the oldest seats of learning in the Muslim world and intermingles splendid old traditions and modern educational standards. The library of GC University Lahore was established in 1872. In addition to the Central Library, a new Postgraduate Library was set up in 1999. The library has the capacity to house nearly 500 readers at the same time. Another library known as Life Sciences Library (LSL) is located in the premises of Institute of Industrial Biotechnology. It has a rich and updated collection of books related to the disciplines of life sciences like Botany, Zoology, Bio-technology and Microbiology etc. The year 2008 brought fantastic and encouraging news for visually impaired students in Pakistan as Government College University (GCU) Lahore established a Centre for Special Students (CSS). The centre is attached to GCU Library for IT based services and administrative affairs. This is the first centre at College or University’s level established in Pakistan which aims at lending a hand to the visually challenged students in order to diminish their educational hurdles. The blind students are given special training in the centre to elevate their comprehension regarding the use of the latest computer technologies. The blind students in the GCU campus take their exams by using the Braille format. The centre offers computers with specifically designed screen reader soft wares which enable the visually impaired students to work independently. The centre for special students (CSS) also houses sound collection of different Braille magazines for pleasure reading. The Centre provides the facility of books scanning which allows the blind students to read their course material independently.

Government College University Libraries have 3,12,550 books and 236 current academic journals in stock. All the theses and dissertations completed by the campus students are placed in the Central Library and bibliographic details of the same may be seen at the GCU’s Website. The library has more than 10000 letters of literary figures and collection of 400 original scripts of articles published from time to time in Nuqosh during 1948-2005. It has outstanding reference collections, British government documents section and periodical collections. Periodical Section of the GCU Library has rich collection of national and international refereed/reviewed journals, magazines, institutional reports and research articles. All the libraries units subscribe 11 national and 4 international newspapers.

GCU library house an affluent collection of forty seven reputed figures including Prof. Sufi Tabassam, Prof. Qayyum Nazar, Ashfaq Ahmad, Bano Qudsia, Dr. Ebadat Brailvi, Dr. Waheed Qureshi, Abdullah Malik, Prof. Sohail Ahmed khan, Prof. Zaheer Ahmed Siddiqui, Malik Meraj Khalid and Prof. Khalid Aftab. The bibliographic description of the donated material is accessible on the library’s web pages.

GCU’s Library has a world standard collection of digital resources. 23 electronic databases (25,000 electronic journals) including American Institute of Physics, American Mathematical Society, ACS Publications, Association of Computing Machinery, Emerald, and JSTOR cover the disciplines of Sciences, Social Sciences and Humanities etc are accessible by virtue of GCU LAN. It does also have access to more than 45,000 electronic books. Terminals have been provided free of cost for accessing digital library in the Central, Postgraduate and Life Sciences Libraries. Library has its own Multimedia section which provides access to CD-ROMS, microfilms, audio and video cassettes etc. The collection of CDs and Audio Cassettes are readily available to its users from Postgraduate Library.

Government College University Library Website is being up-dated on regular basis. The official website of GCU Library [http://www.gcu.edu.pk/library](http://www.gcu.edu.pk/library) won the first prize among Pakistan Universities and was declared the Best Library Website of the year 2006, in the
competition organized by Elsevier Publishing in collaboration with the HEC. In 2009, an international Impact Factor Journal “Program: Electronic Library and Information Systems” declared the GC University Library Website “The best library website of Pakistan”. GCU Library is the only partner of World Digital Library (WDL) program, a cooperative project of the Library of Congress (LOC) and the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). GCU Library has established a resource sharing link with DELNET which is the largest resource sharing network in Asia as a single library from Pakistan. The Postgraduate Library have Arabic, Persian and Urdu manuscripts, typewriter of Saadat Hasan Manto, personal belongings of N.M. Rashid along with the original Nobel Prize of Prof. Abdus Salam, a distinguished old Ravian and the only Nobel Laureate from Pakistan. Government College University Lahore Library was recently honoured with the “Best Library Award” by the International Society for Science and Religion (ISSR). The GCU Library was chosen for the award through a competitive and peer-review process based on existing capacity, commitment to research and study in science and religion, institutional support for related projects and future plans for scholarly activity. Moreover, GCU Library is the only partner of World Digital Library program of Library of Congress USA; and DELNET India from Pakistan. The details of the services and the facilities extended by the library management to the users have been provided on the GCU Library Website www.gcu.edu.pk/library.

Users may make queries through e-mail at: chieflibrarian@gcu.edu.pk.

In the year 2008 GCU established a Centre for Special Students (CSS) to address the information needs of visually impaired students. This CSS is first of its kind established in any HEI of Pakistan which aims at assisting the visually challenged students in order to eliminate their educational barriers. The CSS is working under the umbrella of GCU Library for IT based services and administrative affairs.

Directorate of Sports

The mental and physical health of a country can be judged from the standard of its sports and sportsmen. As a general rule, it is through sports that one develops a healthy body, which ultimately leads to a healthy mind. The importance given to sports by the developed countries is no less than education. They have planned systematically for the development of Sports, which has paid the dividends. Like-wise in the GCU, sports are considered an integral part of physical fitness and mental training. These activities have a profound effect on the physical fitness and mental health of the students, which has ultimately enhanced their capabilities and efficiency. The Sports history of GC University can be traced from the 1931-32 session when GC became the overall champion and won the general trophy of the Punjab University for the first time.

The GC achieved supremacy by winning 12 times the overall general trophy and securing overall runners up positions 4 times between 1931-47. During this period, GC produced a number of outstanding sportsmen who not only brought honour and glory to their college but also had the distinction of representing India in the Olympics and various International Sports Events. After Independence, GC kept on its outstanding traditions in the field of sports and maintained its excellence and edge over the rival institutions. GC won the general all round trophy 20 times and remained runners up for 22 times from 1947-48 till (1988-89).

GCU is one of the finest sports nurseries for producing and grooming sportsmen for National teams, and has been maintaining its tradition of excellence in sports and has produced hundreds of international sportsmen who represented Pakistan with distinction in Olympic/Asian/SAF Games and other International Sports Events since 1947. After getting the status of University in 2002, the GCU leadership started revamping the sports activities on higher level and re-established the Sports & Physical Education Department.

GCU University has kept on the healthy tradition of excellence in the field of sports and takes pride in maintaining high standard in every field of sports activities. GCU always plays for the glory of sports and has the privilege to participate in all games organized by the Lahore Board, HEC Sports Competition with distinction.