

On Campus Facilities

Library

1. Fazal-e-Hussain Library
2. Postgraduate Library
3. Life Sciences Library
4. Departmental Libraries
5. Centre for Special Students

The objective of GC University Library is to support efforts towards information literacy education by using conventional and electronic modes of libraries. These in turn provide teaching resources, space for tutoring and information, and referral services side by side. The Library wants to play a significant role in fulfilling the information needs of users and help them to pursue academic excellence as set by GCU: one of the oldest seats of learning in the Muslim world that intermingles splendid old traditions and modern educational standards. GC University Library Lahore was established in 1872. In addition to the Central Library, a new Postgraduate Library was set up in 1999. The library has capacity to accommodate almost 500 readers at the same time. Another library known as Life Sciences Library (LSL) is located in the premises of Institute of 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.

GC University (GCU) Lahore established a Centre for Special Students (CSS) in 2008. The Centre is attached with GCU Library. This is the first center 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 examinations by using the Braille format. The Centre provides the facility of books scanning which allows the blind students to read their course material independently.

GC University Libraries house 3,35,732 books in stock. All theses and dissertations completed by the University's students are placed in the Central Library and bibliographic details of the same may be accessed at the GCU's Website. The Library has outstanding Reference Collections, British Government Documents Section and Periodical Collections. All the library units subscribe 11 national and four international dailies.

GC University Library Lahore stands tall among its peers on account of its personal collections. The GCU Library boasts over 50 personal collections of leading personalities including Prof. Sufi Ghulam Mustafa Tabassum, Prof. Qayyum Nazar, Muzafar Ali Syed, Ashfaq Ahmad, Bano Qudsia, Prof. Dr. Khalid Aftab, Prof. Dr. Zaheer Ahmed Siddiqui, Chaudhry Ghulam Jilani and Malik Meraz Khalid (Former Acting Prime Minister of Pakistan) having 1,45,464 books none of which was bought. The scholars or their descendants donated their collections to GCU after being impressed by the high standards of book preservation and literary utility at this oldest seat of learning in Pakistan. Some prominent scholars who have had a life-long association with rival institutions preferred to trust GCU in this regard. Prof Dr. Waheed Qureshi reposed his trust in GCU by offering 35,000 valuable books and journals to the GCU Library without charging a single penny in 2003. The heirs of Prof Dr. Ebadat Bralevi and Prof Syed Viqar Azeem — the two distinguished professors of Punjab University Oriental College donated their precious collections to GCU Library. The Amt-ul-Arifa Reading Room was established at the GC University Lahore Postgraduate Library with a generous donation of Rs three million by the former GCU English Department Chairperson Prof. Dr. Nosheen Khan. Recently, four more personal collections of Prof. Dr. Syed Moeen-ur-Rahman (former Chairperson of Urdu Department), Abu-ul-Najeeb Haji Muhammad Arshad Quershi (An eminent Islamic Scholar), Prof. Dr. Syed Saeed Murtaza Zaidi and Maqbool Ahmed Dehlvi (A noted journalist) were received by the GCU Library. Concise bibliographic details of Personal Collections may be observed through the following URL:

- <http://www.library.gcu.edu.pk/PCollections.htm>
#PERSONAL COLLECTIONS

GCU's Library has a world standard collection of digital resources. 25 electronic databases (25,000 electronic journals) including American Institute of Physics, American Mathematical Society, ACS Publications, Association of Computing Machinery, Emerald, and JSTOR covering the disciplines of Sciences, Social Sciences and Humanities etc are accessible at GCU Network. The Library has also access to more than one lac electronic books. Terminals have been provided for accessing digital collections in the Central, Post



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Graduate and Life Sciences Libraries. Library has its own Multimedia collections. Multimedia section provides access to CD-ROMS, microfilms, audio and video cassettes etc.

The official website of GCU 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 UNESCO. The Post Graduate Library houses Arabic, Persian and Urdu manuscripts, typewriter of Saadat Hasan Manto (A renowned story writer and screenwriter), personal belongings of N.M. Rashid (A distinguished Old Ravian) along-with the original Nobel Prize of Prof. Dr. Abdus Salam, a distinguished old Ravian and the only Nobel Laureate from Pakistan. GC University Lahore Library was recently honored with the "Best Library Award" by the International Society for Science and Religion (ISSR). The GC University Library was chosen for the award through a competitive and peer-review process based on present capacity, commitment to research and study in science and religion, institutional support for related projects and original and promising plans for scholarly activity related to the Library.

The GC University Libraries, under the direction of the Chief Librarian, are staffed by two Senior Librarians, eight Librarians, IT professionals along with 35 supporting staff. The staff is fully qualified and competent to fulfill the information needs of the library's users in the present age of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs). The Library Staff is teaching Information Science as an Inter-Disciplinary Course at BA/BSc (Hons) Level in the University with an aim to develop searching skills among students for enabling them to search for general as well as specific information.

Users may make queries through e mail at: chief librarian@gcu.edu.pk

