

Summary: The U.Va. Science and Engineering Library at Clark Hall

The Science and Engineering Library at Clark Hall is the main science library at the University of Virginia and works in conjunction with various departmental libraries, including Biology, Chemistry, and Physics, which function primarily as satellite research libraries.

SEL-Clark contains the second-largest collection in the University Library system and provides a broad range of scientific and technical information to members of the University community as well as residents of Central Virginia. Located in the old Law Library in Clark Hall, the Science and Engineering Library was included in a renovation of the building from June 2000 to October 2003.



SEL -Clark Facts

- 389,800 books, journals, and microforms
- 1,300 online journals
- 91,700 items borrowed or used in-house daily (circulation)
- 1,500 visitors estimated daily
- 414 seats (study space)
- 37,914 gross square feet

Features:

- **Reading Room**

The library's reading room features natural lighting, groups of comfortable chairs, and working fireplace, creating a welcome place to sit, read, and relax. This room also reflects the efforts of the Environmental Studies department, including using a revolutionary and completely biodegradable upholstery fabric designed by former Dean of Architecture William McDonough.

- **Advanced Technologies and Multimedia**

Laptop connections to the Internet are available from every seat and study carrel in the library and the computer lab provides access for 35 to 40 students at a time. An advanced multimedia center features scanners, video carrels, and digital media workstations as well as other technology. In addition, the library's electronic classroom lets librarians teach students about technology and how to make the most of it.

- **Group Study Opportunities**

In order to encourage more collaborative work by students, the library's design includes several spaces designated as a group study areas. The computers in the lab on the main floor have been taken out of a strict straight-line configuration and include "pods" for group work. Fully-wired study rooms provide spaces to meet in person or on-line and two projectors and screens give students the opportunity to practice presentations.

How to talk about the Clark Hall Science and Engineering Library

Although this library is the primary science and engineering research center for undergraduate students and community members, it should be distinguished from the "satellite" science libraries that provide more specific research options to graduate students and the faculty (eg., Astronomy, Biology, Psychology)..

- First reference: The Clark Hall Science and Engineering Library, or alternatively, The Science and Engineering Library at Clark Hall
- Second reference: The Science and Engineering Library
- Short-hand/nickname: SEL-Clark