The Alexander Mack Memorial Library is an integral part of the intellectual life of Bridgewater College. Built in 1962-63 and named for the founder of the Church of the Brethren, the library provides access to:

- 164,000+ books, e-books, journals and DVDs
- 80+ electronic databases and 21,000+ online journals
- Borrowing resources from 7,500+ other libraries through interlibrary loan
- Individual and group study seating for over 220 students
- Laptops available for use within the library with wireless access to the Internet

The Cleo Driver Miller Gallery, located on the second floor of the library, serves the community as both a teaching space for the visual arts and a formal exhibition space for student exhibits as well as local and nationally recognized artists’ work.

Circulation Policies

Loans—Books circulate to students and community holders for 28 days and 120 days for staff and faculty cardholders. Books from the Browsing collection circulate for 28 days for all patrons. Audiovisual materials circulate for 7 days for students and community holders and 14 days for faculty and staff. Reference books and periodicals do not circulate.

Your ID card must be presented for each transaction. Since the ID cardholder is the person responsible for fines or loss of materials, the library asks you not to lend your ID card to another person for checking out library resources.

Renewals—Materials may be renewed once at the end of the loan period unless they have been requested by someone else.

Reserves—Course reserves have a loan period of three hours and are available at the circulation desk. There is a two item limit per checkout and are for in-library use only. ID cards must remain with library circulation while reserves are on loan.

Fines—The fine for overdue items is $0.25 per day. Replacement charges vary and will include a $20.00 replacement fee.

Using Local Libraries—Reciprocal library borrowing privileges are available for Bridgewater College students, staff and faculty at Eastern Mennonite University, James Madison University, Mary Baldwin College and Shenandoah University. Bridgewater patrons must abide by the lending policies of those libraries when borrowing their materials.

Special Collections

Special Collections is committed to providing first-hand access to historical materials for Bridgewater students, faculty, and independent researchers. Special Collections includes published and non-published archival resources in the areas of:

- Bridgewater College
- Church of the Brethren
- Virginia, Shenandoah Valley, and Rockingham County history
- Genealogy

Access to these collections is provided in the J. I. Baugher Special Collections Room, located on the lower level of the library. Special Collections is open from 9 a.m. – noon, and 1 p.m. – 4 p.m., Monday–Friday.

Special Collections also includes the Brethren Room created through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Charles D. Lantz and dedicated in 1964 to commemorate the founders and leaders of the Church of the Brethren. This room houses the Alexander Mack Bible and other unique materials relating to Brethren history.

Researchers are advised to call the College Archivist, 828-5457, before visiting.

Interlibrary Loan Service

Interlibrary Loan assists scholarly research by obtaining materials unavailable at the Alexander Mack Library from other libraries. Receipt time varies from overnight delivery to three weeks, depending on the source of the requested material. The borrowing period is determined by the lending library. For more information or to submit a request online, go to the library’s homepage at www.bridgewater.edu/library and click on “Interlibrary Loan.”

The Reuel B. Pritchett Museum

The Reuel B. Pritchett Museum is dedicated to engaging students, faculty, staff and the wider community in the history of Bridgewater College, the Church of the Brethren, Rockingham County and the Shenandoah Valley. Named for the Brethren minister and Bridgewater College alumnus who donated his collection of more than 5,000 artifacts and rare books to the college in 1954, the collection has grown to more than 10,000 items.

Located on the ground floor of Cole Hall, the museum is open Monday – Friday, 1 p.m. – 4:30 p.m., and closed on major holidays. Admission is free.

For more information or to schedule a group visit, call the Museum Curator at (540) 828-5462.
Research Assistance

Staff members are available to help you use the library’s resources. The reference desk is located on the library’s first floor or you can schedule a consultation by contacting reference@bridgewater.edu or calling 828-5415.

Library Instruction

Library instruction is available individually or as a component available for faculty to include in their courses. We provide classes and other types of research assistance inside and outside of class custom designed for each request. Subjects can include familiarization with library resources and other aspects of the research process.

For more information or to schedule a session, please contact Cori Biddle, Information Literacy Librarian, at cbiddle@bridgewater.edu or call 828-5415.

Locating Library Materials

FIRST FLOOR
- DVDs, CDs, and VHS
- Reference Collection
- General Collection 000 – 360
- Current Journals
SECOND FLOOR
- General Collection 361 – 999
- Juvenile Collection
- Brethren Room
- Instruction Room
- Conference Room
GROUND FLOOR
- Back Issues of Journals
- Microforms
- Special Collections

Library Hours

MONDAY - THURSDAY 7:45 a.m. - 12:00 a.m.
FRIDAY 7:45 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
SATURDAY 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
SUNDAY 1:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Hours for holiday periods, summer sessions and other special occasions will be posted at the Library entrance and on the Web site at www.bridgewater.edu/library.

Museum Hours

MONDAY - FRIDAY 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Special Collections Hours

MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Researchers are requested to call before visiting.

Directory

General Information ...................828-5413
Reference Desk .............................828-5642
Administration .............................828-5410
Special Collections .......................828-5457
Museum .........................................828-5462