

About the Library

The history of this library was first marked in 1921, and by 1939 the collection size of books grew to about 27,000 volumes when the library was shifted to a more spacious building called "Villa Venetia". Now the library has spanned to have a main library and the libraries of Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Science and Faculty of Graduate Studies. The Main library is situated at Reid Avenue and the Science Library is situated at Thurstan Road, whereas the Medical Library is located at Kynsey Road.

Structure

The Main Library occupies a six-storied building and caters faculties of Arts, Education, Law, Management & Graduate Studies. The library resources and services are structured as follows:

Ground : Acquisition, Cataloguing and Binding Departments

Floor

1st Floor : Circulation Counter/ Library Catalogue/
Permanent Reference Section/ Librarian's Office/
Library Office/ Reader Services Section and
Photocopying Bureau/ E-Resources Centre

2nd Floor : Law Collection

3rd Floor : Reference Section

4th Floor : Periodicals/
Sri Lanka Collection/
Research Collection and Library Auditorium

5th Floor : Collections of Lending and Bound Periodicals



Collections

This library system consists of about 500,000 books, periodicals, audio-visual materials and electronic resources of disciplines like Arts, Education, Humanities, Law, Management, Commerce, Medicine, Pure Science and Social Sciences. The resource collections grow rapidly with the addition of about 5000 to 6000 materials annually.

> The Lending Collection

- This section is used most often by the students.
- Books here can be borrowed for a period of two weeks.

> The Permanent Reference Collection

- This section consists of reference materials such as Dictionaries, Encyclopedias, Year books, Handbooks,

Directories, Almanacs, important textbooks and past question papers etc, which are not allowed to be borrowed.
→ However, these reference materials are released for the purpose of getting photocopies.

> Reference Collection

- This section consists of essential textbooks recommended by the lecturers of any faculty and reading materials that are limited in number.
- These materials are marked with a blue colour letter "R" on their spines.

> The Periodical Collection

- This section has a collection of about 970 journal titles in all academic fields and also subscribes some newspapers.
- Back issues of the periodicals are released only for photocopying purposes.
- Photocopies of the journal articles can be obtained, subject to the library regulations & the provisions of copyright act.

> The Sri Lanka Collection

- These sections consist of Books written by Sri Lankan authors, books on Sri Lanka, and government publications, theses etc.
- These collections are on closed access and services are provided for all users.
- These materials are not released for photocopying or borrowing but can be used in the reading room of the Sri Lanka Collection.



> The Research Collection

- The Research Collection preserves resources with a preservation value.
- Those are books printed during centuries earlier, books written by famous authors, books and other forms of printed materials found out of print, books written with rare subject approach, collection of Acts of Sri Lanka, books with historical value.
- This section strictly allows referencing only and permits no photocopying.



> The Law Collection

- This section consists of textbooks, Law journals, Law reports, Sri Lankan acts, Law dictionaries and Encyclopedias.



- This is for the use of law students only.
- These resources are also treated as reference and loaned only for over night and weekends referencing.

Electronic Resources

- > The library subscribes to JSTOR and Hein Online databases, which can be accessed from any terminal in the university premises.
- > The library also has access to SAGE, Emerald, Taylor & Francis Online, Oxford journals, Wiley Online Library, and Research for Life through National Digital Library Consortium.
- > Readers may only use the full-text resources for their own studies & research and not to download or distribute to non-library members or use for commercial purposes.
- > Please visit the library website to access these databases.

❖ E-Journals

To access the local and international e-journals

❖ E-books

Electronic books in different subject areas are available free of charge. Please visit <http://lib.cmb.ac.lk/ebooks.html> for details.

How to Search your books on OPAC

OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue) is the main gateway to access the resources. The complete resources collection available could be searched using keywords, author, title, publisher, subject, etc.



Special Services Provided

❖ Inter Library Loans (ILL)

A user of the library can borrow or receive soft/ hard copies of documents that are available in certain libraries of Sri Lanka. Requests should be made to the Reference Service department of the library.

❖ EDDS Services

If a user request important research articles which are currently not available in any Sri Lankan library, then the library requests the same from the British Library Document Delivery Service (BLDDS). The payment required for these documents is borne by the library.

❖ Workshops and Training Programmes

Educational Workshops



- Orientation: The University of Colombo Library organizes free programs of library orientation tours and classes to familiarize the new students to the library system and usage.
- Workshops on Harvard Referencing Convention
- E-Resource Training Workshops
- Workshops Related to Research Writing
- Workshops on Basic Computing Skills

❖ E-Resource Centre



The e-Resources can be accessed using the terminals in this centre. However, the reservations have to be made one day before or early morning.



Library Auditorium

Library Auditorium can be hired for seminars on prior requests. Details can be availed from library office.

❖ Photocopying Facilities

Library materials can be photocopied at an outsourced Photocopying bureau.

Borrowing of Books

❖ Cards Issued for Students

Arts/ Management Undergraduate Students

- 1st Year – 01 Lending Book & 01 Reference Book
- 2nd year – 02 Lending Books & 01 Reference Book
- 3rd Year – 03 Lending Books & 01 Reference Book
- 4th Year – 03 Lending Books & 01 Reference Book



Law Undergraduate Students

- Law – 1st Year – 01 Lending Book & 01 Reference Book
- Law – 2nd Year – 01 Lending Book & 02 Reference Books
- Law – 3rd Year – 02 Lending Books & 02 Reference Books
- Law – 4th Year – 02 Lending Books & 02 Reference Books

Postgraduate Students

- Law (LLM/ M.Phil./ PhD) – 02 Reference Books
- Other Postgraduates - 01 Lending Book & 01 Reference Book

❖ Charges for Overdue Books

The loan period for a book is 14 days. Items are subject to recall by the library, if required. Fines for the late return of:

- Lending Books – Rs. 10.00 per day
- Reference Books – Rs. 15.00 per day

(Fines have to be paid to the Circulation Counter of the Library)

Library Opening Hours



Sections	Opening Hours (Weekdays)	Opening Hours (Weekends)
Counter	8.30 a.m.-7.00 p.m.	8.30 a.m.-7.00 p.m.
E-Resource	8.30 a.m.-7.00 p.m.	8.30 a.m.-7.00 p.m.
Permanent Ref.	8.30 a.m.-7.00 p.m.	8.30 a.m.-7.00 p.m.
Law	8.30 a.m.-7.00 p.m.	8.30 a.m.-7.00 p.m.
Reference	8.30 a.m.-7.00 p.m.	8.30 a.m.-7.00 p.m.
Lending	8.30 a.m.-6.30 p.m.	8.30 a.m.-6.30 p.m.
*Sri Lanka	8.30 a.m.-4.00 p.m.	8.30 a.m.-5.30 p.m.
*Periodicals	8.30 a.m.-4.00 p.m.	8.30 a.m.-5.30 p.m.
Book Issuing	Weekdays	Weekends
Lending Books	8.30 a.m.-6.30 p.m.	8.30 a.m.-6.30 p.m.
Reference Books	2.45 p.m.-6.30 p.m.	8.30 a.m.-6.30 p.m.
Book Returning	Weekdays	Weekends
Lending Books	8.30 a.m.-6.30 p.m.	8.30 a.m.-6.30 p.m.
Reference Books	8.30 a.m.-6.30 p.m.	8.30 a.m.-6.30 p.m.

* Sri Lanka and Periodical sections are opened only on **Saturdays** during weekends.

Do You Have Any Query?

Contact us



Library, University of Colombo, P.O. Box 1698, Reid Avenue, Colombo 07, Sri Lanka



011-2583043 (Librarian), 011-2586432 (Office),
011-2158734 (SAL/ Reader Service/Faculties)
011-2158743 (Main Counter)



011-2583043



librarian@lib.cmb.ac.lk, refser@lib.cmb.ac.lk



<http://www.lib.cmb.ac.lk/>

The Library

University of Colombo Sri Lanka



Student User Guide



Your Library Is Your Paradise