



Upcoming Events at the Library

April 4-11 – Library Scavenger Hunt!

Stop in and find the clues to solve the puzzle. You will win a small reward that can be collected at the Circulation Desk. More information can be found via a link on our homepage and social media page.

April 4-10 - National Library Week

We celebrate National Library Week by inviting students to submit a selfie that we will include in an American Library Association READ poster to be digitally displayed. To participate, [check out the rules](#) for submitting your pics!

April 29th - “Poem in your Pocket Day”

Poetry is celebrated on this day by sharing a poem with a friend, family member, stranger. The Libraries have a

virtual “Poem in your Pocket” day with “porch poetry,” resources, videos, and a chance to include your poetry reading on our special guide.

May 3-9 – Children’s Book Week & Harry Potter Trivia!

The branch campus libraries will celebrate Children’s Book Week in conjunction with a Happy Potter Trivia Day! More details to come, but please join us in some trivia fun and celebrating children’s literature.

May 17 - EXAM CRAM

Join us virtually for some fun and relaxation to help you get through your exams this semester. More information will be posted on our social media pages.

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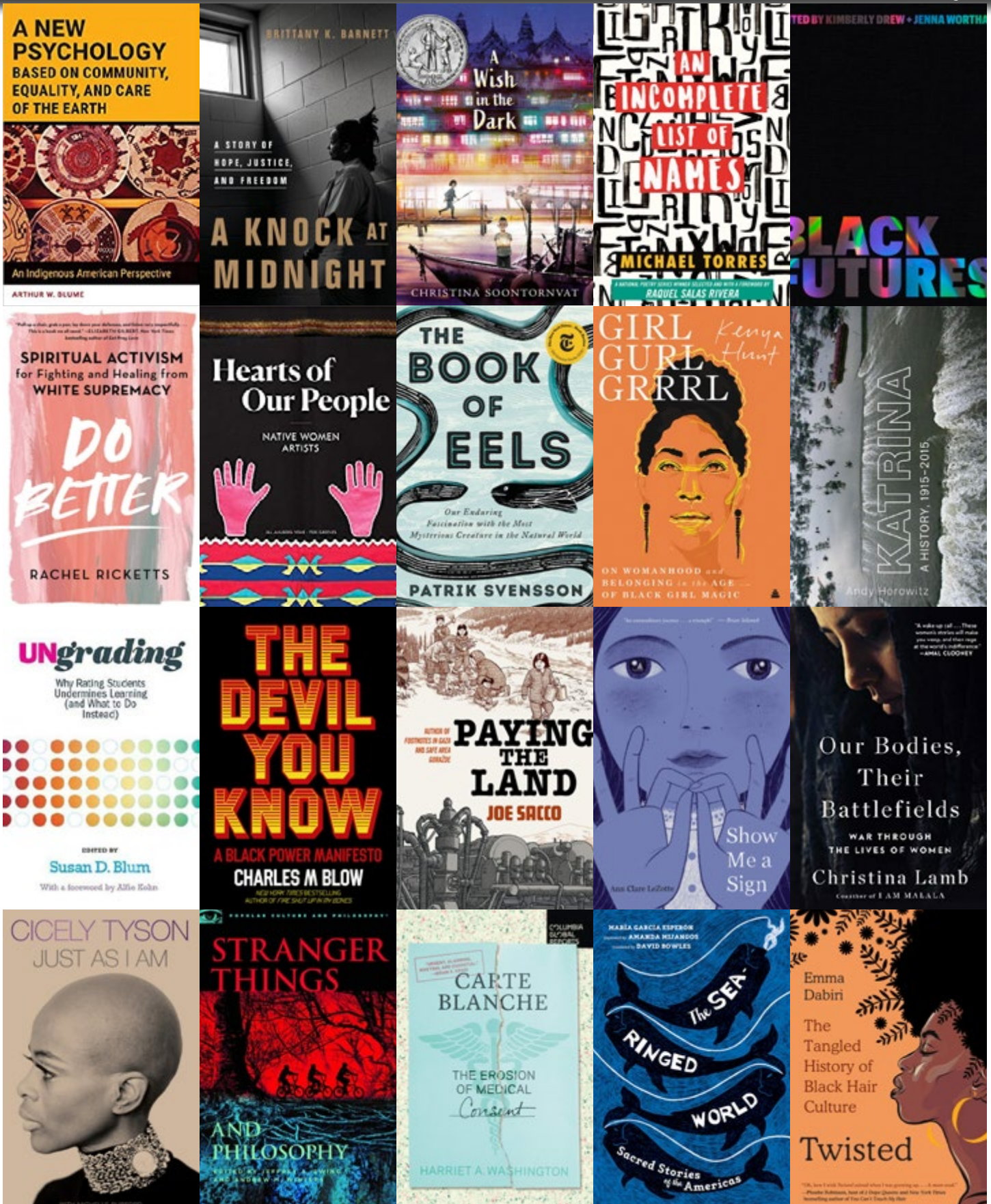
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New Books at the Libraries!

[...Click for catalogue info](#)



Critical Thinking

Information Literacy as a Critical Tool



By Dona Warren
Director, Critical Thinking Center

“JUST AS ANY CARPENTRY TOOLBOX WOULD BE POORLY STOCKED WITHOUT A HAMMER, SCREWDRIVER, AND PLIER, SOME ESSENTIAL CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS MUST BE INCLUDED IN ANY FULLY-FUNCTIONAL CRITICAL THINKING TOOLBOX, AND INFORMATION LITERACY SKILLS ARE AMONG THEM.”

Beginning in Fall 2021, critical thinking will become a general education requirement at the foundational skills and dispositions level, along with written communication, quantitative literacy, and wellness. Just as the other foundational courses serve as the bedrock upon which students can grow their competencies throughout their college career, courses in the critical thinking category will provide students with a set of basic critical thinking skills that they will develop during their course of study at UWSP and after graduation. Because the courses in the critical thinking category will be drawn from a wide variety of disciplines across campus, the specific critical thinking skills that they impart will vary. But the overarching critical thinking framework within which these skills are situated will be common to all courses in the critical thinking category and will enable students to transfer, develop, and add to their critical thinking skill set as they progress through the curriculum. Essentially, courses in the critical thinking category will equip students both with some tools and with a tool box. By keeping their tool box handy, students will be able to apply their tools in new contexts, pick up new tools along the way, and (by storing those new tools in the

same toolbox) better understand how all of their tools complement each other and can be used in concert.

UWSP understands critical thinking to be a process of identifying, analyzing, evaluating, and constructing reasoning in deciding what conclusions to draw (argumentation) or actions to take (decision-making and problem-solving).

This conceptualization defines the compartments in the critical thinking tool box, and all critical thinking skills can be understood as fitting into one of those compartments, as contributing to the identification, analysis, evaluation, or construction of reasoning. Just as any carpentry toolbox would be poorly stocked without a hammer, screwdriver, and plier, some essential critical thinking skills must be included in any fully-functional critical thinking tool box, and information literacy skills are among them. Without the ability to determine the credibility of sources cited in an argument, we can't evaluate the reasoning.

**BECAUSE
CRITICAL THINKING
IS A CRITICAL SKILL.**

**LIBRARIES
TRANSFORM™**
ALA American Library Association

Without the ability to seek out good information, we can't make effective decisions. Unless we understand that scholarship is conversation, accept that research is inquiry, see that information creation is a process, and internalize a host of other threshold concepts, the entire process of critical thinking will be closed to us. For this reason, and with the integral support of the librarians at UWSP, at least one hour of the ten hours of

workshops required of critical thinking instructors will be devoted to information literacy. The library will be a key player in this new general education category. ■

Learn more about the Critical Thinking Center at UWSP: <https://www.uwsp.edu/ctc/Pages/default.aspx>

Libraries Offer New Critical Thinking Course



By Dave Dettman
Library Instruction
Program Coordinator

The UWSP Libraries are excited to announce a new 3-credit course entitled Critical Approaches to Information Research (LRES 150) that will be offered for the first time during the spring 2022 semester. This new course offering is in large part the result of the Libraries' participation in the campus Critical Thinking Initiative led by Dr. Dona Warren, who serves as the first Director of the UW-Stevens Point's Critical Thinking Center. The course will use the threshold concepts of the ACRL Framework for Information Literacy in Higher Education and the concept of information literacy as the foundation. Information literacy and critical thinking are synonymous in many ways, as articulated in another article in this newsletter authored by Dr. Warren. As a result, the word "Critical" in the course title is used intentionally to signify this close relationship.

This course focuses on the information literacy skills of identifying, analyzing, evaluating, and synthesizing appropriate evidence (information sources) in order to decide what conclusions to

draw or actions to take. The experiences in this class will help students acquire a sophisticated set of research skills that will facilitate finding "suitable information" on topics across the disciplines and in environments (professional and personal) beyond college.

Through this course students will organize information in meaningful ways while synthesizing ideas gathered from multiple sources.

Students will learn how to articulate why an information source is a relevant/appropriate piece of evidence including its relevance in the scholarly conversation and the value placed on different types of information. Students will also learn how to use information ethically to support arguments.

Past studies have shown that students who take the Libraries' LRES 101 1-credit course are retained longer and graduate at higher rates than students that do not take the course. We are confident that this new 3-credit offering will have even more dramatic results in terms of helping students succeed and persist to graduation. ■

BECAUSE
LIBRARIES CAN
HELP TAKE YOUR
RESEARCH TO THE
NEXT LEVEL.

Refreshing our Collections

With the arrival of Spring our thoughts shift to planting of gardens and just as gardens need to be weeded to remain healthy and vibrant, so too do library collections. A well-maintained and relevant library collection, which directly supports the curriculum and research of our campus, not only makes way for new books but also enhances the student learning experience and fosters a more effective research process.

UWSP Librarians have re-prioritized our weeding efforts and will be continuing to work over the next year to assess our print collection and withdraw items that are no longer directly

relevant to the teaching and learning that occurs on our campus. Librarians use criteria such as usage, date of publication, historical and local significance, and relevance to the curriculum and research of our institution to help make informed decisions. We welcome your input. Faculty and staff are encouraged to review lists of candidates for withdrawal on our [Collection Assessment guide](#) and share titles of concern with their [library liaison](#). Books being withdrawn are sent to the [Thriftbooks Library Program](#), which gives us a percentage of their sales that in turn is used to purchase new items for the library.

New Resource: Classical Scores Library

The [Classical Scores Library](#) is a collection of over 50,000 classical music scores encompassing all major classical genres from the Middle Ages to the 21st Century. Includes printable full, study, piano and vocal scores.



Dr. Seuss, Cancel Culture, and Censorship

Recently, the decision by Dr. Seuss Enterprise to cease publishing six books caused quite a stir. View [this video](#) to learn more about how the Libraries balanced issues of racially sensitive content and censorship, while upholding our values of access and preservation.



Archives

Meet our Archives Interns!

The University Archives is currently hosting several talented and dedicated interns. Their projects include recording census data, processing physical and digital archival records, working with our Rare Books collection, and aiding researchers. Learn more about our interns below!

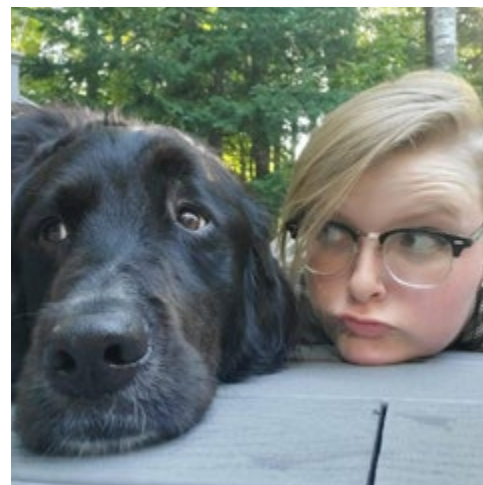
Sarah Johnsrud – Pathways Intern

Year: Junior

Major: History (BS)

Minors: Arts Management, Museum Studies, Environmental Studies

What I like most about Archives: “What I like most about the archives is the “microhistory” aspect of it. You are able to get into such specific stories, materials, and topics that you may never expect. One day, you may be handling someone’s precious family photos and the next you may be holding onto a notebook page written from another country in another language! I am thrilled to have taken the opportunity to explore the work and the excitement of UWSP’s Archives and Area Research Center.”



Brielle Lueck – Pathways Intern

Year: Sophomore

Major: Broadfield Social Sciences

Minors: History, Secondary Education

What I like most about Archives: “What I like most about the Archives is the hands-on experience that it gives me while preparing me for my future career in history education. The Archives gives me a greater appreciation for history through getting to work with it first-hand. I am grateful for the learning experience and enjoy working with the Archives!”

Miranda Solem – GIS Special Project Intern

Year: Junior

Majors: Biology, History

Minor: Museum Studies

What I like most about Archives: “I love the archives because it’s where all the secrets are, any information you need or want is probably there if you look hard enough. I like working for the archives because I am able to learn about local history and about people that used to live here freely and piece together a story about old Stevens Point.”



Library Guides

Customized Library Research and Course Guides

Are you interested in integrating library resources into your teaching and research assignments? A library course guide can be a very valuable tool for helping your students successfully identify and use library resources.

We would be happy to set up a library guide for your course. The guide can be as simple as some basic library resources in your discipline, such as encyclopedias, journals and databases. If you would prefer more customization, just share your syllabus with us, or contact us with information about your specialized needs and we'll customize the resources included to your research assignments.

Top 10 Guides Spring 2021

1. [Waste Management](#)
2. [Finding Videos](#)
3. [COMM 101: Fundamentals of Oral Communication](#)
4. [Collection Assessment](#)
5. [NRES 370: Intro to Environmental Study and Environmental Education](#)
6. [How to Use EndNote](#)
7. [How to Find Scholarly and Popular Journal Articles](#)
8. [Relaxation and Stress Relief](#)
9. [How to Identify Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary Sources](#)
10. [How to Cite](#)

Outstanding Work Performance Award



The UWSP Libraries congratulate Heather Springer, University College Business Manager, for receiving the UWSP Outstanding Work Performance Award. Heather is instrumental in the day-to-day operation of the UWSP Libraries and we thank her for her ongoing dedication and passion. As her nomination letter stated:

“During the strangeness of the last year, Heather was the glue that held University College together. Heather has made it possible for University College to be successful in our pandemic footing physically, virtually, and financially. Her long hours of strategizing and planning as part of the EOC enabled her to lead the units of University College to offer safe physical spaces and effective virtual services that were key to the success of our students during the last

year. Heather’s positive, “can-do” attitude kept the rest of us on track when things seemed overwhelming. Her extensive knowledge of the operations of University College, and of the University, proved essential as difficult decisions were made. Her ability to see the “big picture” often makes her a go-to person when University College directors need to talk through options. Heather always makes time to listen, understand needs, and help provide solutions.”

Congrats, Heather!

Are you ready for finals?

Librarians are here to help!

Email:

Librefd@uwsp.edu

Chat:

www.uwsp.edu/library/chat

Call:

715-346-2836

Text:

715-602-3542

I'm a freshman student in NRES 250 and I'm writing a paper on stocking walleyes in lakes for sport fishing. I have tried looking myself for a peer-reviewed article and have become overwhelmed and ask for your help in locating one.

I need help finding a peer reviewed articles for smart inhalers for a nursing class.

Is there a bat biologist on campus?

I'm taking a music class and want a space in this building where I can sing without disturbing anyone.

Does the library loan out taxidermy animals to community patrons?

How Can I Help?

I need an opinion source relating to the debate on health insurance coverage and mental health, but I'm having troubles finding one.

Can you help me find peer-reviewed articles on the topic on the economic impacts of malaria?



Reference Desk

Mission

The Libraries are an innovative partner in the learning community and an active participant in promoting the University's goals of teaching, learning, scholarship and community outreach. The Libraries provide quality academic services and resources that foster intellectual curiosity, promote critical inquiry, and encourage awareness of an increasingly diverse and global environment.

Contact Us !

The faculty and staff of the UWSP Libraries look forward to serving you from all three of our locations!

The Marshfield and Wausau campus libraries continue to provide services and instruction throughout the spring semester. All libraries will remain open over summer with limited hours and are excited to begin offering events again to our students and staff this fall!

Marshfield:

715-389-6512
lpetri@uwsp.edu

Stevens Point:

715-346-2540
librefd@uwsp.edu

Wausau:

715-262-6220
rwallin@uwsp.edu



Supporting the Libraries

The UWSP Libraries welcome gifts and donations to support library collections and services. Your gift will support both current and future students, faculty, staff, and researchers, as well as Central Wisconsin's educational and cultural community.

[Give the Gift of knowledge today!](#)



Libraries
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point