Welcome!

As a School of Theology student, you have access to expert reference help from the Theology Library’s librarians. How you reach this help can be defined by your own personal style. Emails can be sent to sthref@bu.edu or your personal librarian. Our reference request form can be filled out online. A 24/7 chat service from BU Libraries called “Ask a Librarian” is also available. You can call our circulation desk at 617-353-3034 or drop in on virtual reference hours via Skype (to be announced). Or, if you do find yourself on campus, feel free to stop by our regular reference desk hours from 10:30 am to 3:30 pm on weekdays during the academic semester.

Your BU ID (Terrier Card) is your library card. You can check out books for 133 days, with 2 renewals.

Access full-text articles in our catalog, and other databases from home at library.bu.edu/eresources, by using your Kerberos username and password (same as your BU email).

Personal Librarian Program

Stacey Duran, our Instruction and Collection Development Librarian, is the “Personal Librarian” contact for all distance education students. Personal librarians can answer reference questions and provide guidance about how to find or use library resources. They also send out regular emails with information on special library events or new library resources available to you. More information on our Personal Librarian program can be found here.

Stacey’s office is across from the Reference Desk in 201C. She can be contacted directly at sbattles@bu.edu, Skype name sbattlesBU, or by phone at 617-353-5357. Stacey will also hold virtual reference hours online throughout the semester, so that you can “drop by” virtually and ask any questions. More information about those will be sent out in her Personal Librarian emails.
ACCESS FOR DISTANCE STUDENTS

Fast Facts to Get You Started

Document Delivery - Books

If you are unable to pick up BU-owned materials on campus, the library may be able to mail you circulating materials. You will be responsible for mailing any BU materials back to campus prior to their due dates. If a material is recalled by another patron, you have one week from the recall date to return it (please contact the library once you have mailed the material so that circulation staff know what day to expect its arrival).

Document Delivery - Articles and Book Chapters

Articles and book chapters of items that BU owns are the easiest thing we can send via document delivery. If you only need one section of a book, please only request that section. Since we can scan these and send them electronically as PDF files, they will arrive much faster (1-2 days instead of 1-2 weeks) than a book!

Document Delivery and InterLibrary Loans (ILL) can be requested using our ILLiad software at:

www.bu.edu/sthlibrary/ILL

You will need to register the first time. Please mark your Campus Affiliation as “Online Distance Program,” school as STH, department as “DMin,” and choose Theology as your service unit. (Otherwise our main library might cancel your requests!)

Access Libraries Near You

BTI Borrowing. You can opt-in to BTI library borrowing through the BTI Cross Registration portal at www.bostontheological.org. Books can be returned directly to that BTI library or to the circulation desk at the BU School of Theology Library.

BLC Cards. The Boston Library Consortium (BLC) card must be requested on campus at BU’s main library, Mugar Memorial Library, one day in advance. At the BLC library’s circulation desk, you will need a BLC card and your BU ID to create a patron account.

ATLA Seminary Libraries. The American Theological Library Association (ATLA) has a reciprocal borrowing agreement among participating ATLA libraries. If you live near one, you can borrow as a visitor. More information can be found on our website.

Your Local Public Library. You may be able to use your public library, as many are connected to larger regional networks of public or university libraries.

Local Universities. Many seminaries and universities offer borrowing privileges to visiting researchers. A dean or administrator may be able to write you a letter of introduction as a visiting researcher. If you think this could be an option for you, please contact us.

library.bu.edu/distance/access