New Interface for the Library’s Online Catalog

The new interface for the library’s catalog is in addition to the catalog that has always been available. The older catalog will be referred to as the Classic Search catalog and will always be available. From the new interface a tab at the upper right will take you to the Classic Search catalog.

The new interface offers some additional features that may make your searching easier.

**Spelling** – if you spell a word wrong, the new catalog will make suggestions. *Did you mean _______*? similar to what is found when searching Amazon or Google. This suggestion will be a link to redo the search.

**Login** – the new interface allows you to create your own login using whatever username and password you wish. When you initially create your account, you will be prompted for the library you belong to, your IVCC ID number (24611……) and your last name. The system will then link your new login (one that will probably be easier to remember) to your IVCC ID number and name. You will be able to requests books through the new interface without having to pull out your IVCC ID card or trying to memorize the number.

If you are using the Classic Search to request books, you will still need to use your IVCC ID number and last name. The new login you created for the new interface will not work for the Classic Search.
The e-mail address you enter when you create an account is the address that will be used if you e-mail a record to yourself. This does not have to be the same e-mail address registered with the library and listed on the Contact Information screen. Overdue notices, however, are sent via e-mail to the e-mail address listed on the Contact Information screen, not the e-mail address you list in your User Account.

If you e-mail titles to yourself, check your e-mail account to be sure they are not ending up in your junk e-mail folder.

Creating your own login offers you the following options:

**Favorites** – your “My Account” in the new interface allows you to create a list of favorites. If you are browsing the catalog and see titles you might want to use later, you can add them to your Favorites. The titles will stay in this list until you delete them. You can also add notes or tags for the titles.

**Checked Out Items** – view a list of all items checked out from Jacobs Library and any item that was interlibrary loaned through the I-Share catalog. You can also renew any items on the list from this page.

**Requested Items** – any items you request through I-Share for interlibrary loan will appear on this list. You can note their progress as they are sent to Jacobs Library.
Contact Information – allows you to view the address, phone number, and email address listed for you in the library’s system. The e-mail address listed here is the one your overdue notices will be sent to.

User Account – allows you to change your password.

Note Concerning E-mail Addresses: you could possibly have two different e-mail addresses listed. The one listed on the Contact Information screen is used by the library to notify you when interlibrary loan items you requested have been received. It is also used to e-mail overdue notices to you. The e-mail address you listed in the User Account you created will receive catalog records that you e-mail to yourself. If you use a Hotmail or Yahoo e-mail account, check to be sure the catalog records you e-mail to yourself do not end up in your Junk e-mail folder.

Topics – the subject headings are sub-divided and the topics are listed on the right side of the screen (you may need to scroll down to view this area). Behind each topic listed is the number of resources on this topic that are available. This area may help narrow topics when doing a research paper. The topic area for the I-Share catalog, however, may be misleading. At this time (August 2008) our consortium has not yet managed to combine holdings on a single record. If nine libraries own a title, there will be nine records in the new interface. In the Classic Search catalog all nine libraries would be listed on one record.

Cite This Book – the new interface offers this option when a bibliographic record is open on the screen. Citations are supplied in both APA and MLA style. These citations, however, appear to be substandard. The system takes information from fields and puts them in the appropriate field of the citation, such as the title of the book as it appears in the catalog. No change is made for capitalization as required in MLA or lowercase as required in APA. Frequently, slashes (/) that mark the end of a field in the catalog record are included. Anyone who chooses to use these citations may need to edit them to conform to MLA and APA standards.

Reserves Tab – no reserves tab is available at this time on the new interface. The Classic Search will need to be used for a list of reserve items.

Quick Search Screen – the new interface opens at this screen. There is one difference from the Classic Search catalog. When running a quick search using multiple words, the new interface uses the AND Boolean operator by default. For example, a search using the words “body piercing”(without the quotes) will result in only titles about “body piercing”.

![Quick Search Screen Example](image-url)
In the Classic Search catalog this same quick search would have resulted in 381 hits, as the search first used the Boolean operator AND (body AND piercing), and then the Boolean operator OR (body OR piercing).

**Ongoing Developments** - The new interface continues to be developed by our consortium CARLI (Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois) as it works to improve the features offered to our patrons. As of August 2008 CARLI consists of 76 academic libraries and has a combined collection of over 35 million books. The vast size and complexity of this collection offers unique challenges to the consortia staff as they work on these new developments.

If you have questions concerning the new interface, please call the library at 224-0306.