

# library4students@astate

An e-newsletter for ASU students from the Dean B. Ellis Library



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## LIBRARY WINS ALA/NEH GRANT

The Dean B. Ellis Library is one of 65 public, academic and community college libraries throughout the United States awarded grants by The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the American Library Association (ALA) to host public reading and discussion programs related to the Civil War in commemoration of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Civil War.

In accordance with the grant, in Spring 2012 the Dean B. Ellis Library will host a five-part series of reading and discussion programs using around the selected texts to explore different facets of the Civil War experience. Discussions will be led by project scholar [Dr. Gary Edwards](#), Associate Professor of History, and will be coordinated by project directors [Linda Creibaum](#) and [April Sheppard](#) of the Dean B. Ellis Library. Additional assistance will be provided by the Library's partnering organizations: the ASU Heritage Studies program and the Arkansas History Commission.

"Let's Talk About It: Making Sense of the American Civil War" is supported by NEH's We the People initiative, which aims to stimulate and enhance the teaching, study and understanding of American history and culture.

Additional information on the project is available at: <http://www.ala.org/civilwarprograms>.



## **LIBRARY USE CONTINUES TO RISE**

Statistics for the 2011-12 academic year show that library holdings and usage continue to rise.

During the past year, 446,560 people entered the library compared to 431,086 during the 2010-2011 academic year. That's an average of over 1,320 a day! Students also used more material than in the previous year: 39,213 books checked out (5% increase) and 15,220 items used within the library (30% increase). In addition, databases searches increased from 1,169,388 searches to 1,362,289 for a 16% increase.

During the last year, the Library also greatly increased its collection through purchases and database subscriptions. ASU staff, students and faculty now have access to 643,148 books, 33,458 current periodicals, 534,172 government publications and 28,372 audio/visual items.

## **NEED AN EXTRA CREDIT HOUR?**

If you want to use the Library's resources more effectively and would like to also earn one semester hour of elective credit, consider enrolling in LIR 1011 - Introduction to Using Electronic Information Resources.

This one credit, half-semester course teaches students strategies for effective information research, including putting together good searches, evaluating various resources (books, magazines, databases, etc.) for quality, and selecting and using the right resources for the right assignments

There are three sections opened from October 11 through December 13.

There is no prerequisite for the course and it is offered in both the fall and spring semesters.

To find our course listings select the subject "Library" in the "Look Up Classes" section of ASU Banner Self Service.

## **ADVANCED NOTICE – EBOOKS IN THE LIBRARY**

Over the next few months, the Library will be adding tens of thousands of eBooks. Look for announcements as these new titles become available.

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To submit feedback or ask questions about topics covered in this newsletter, contact April Sheppard, Newsletter Editor, at [asheppard@astate.edu](mailto:asheppard@astate.edu) or Jeff Bailey, Interim Dean, at [jbailey@astate.edu](mailto:jbailey@astate.edu).

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All back issues of this newsletter may be viewed online at <http://www.library.astate.edu/newsletter>.

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