

Library and Information Resources at Broward College

Broward College is well positioned to support a program of study leading to a Bachelor's of Science degree in Education. This strong, enviable position is due to a long standing commitment by the College to provide the necessary resources for instruction. Broward College has served as a model, providing access to resources by building coalitions with other entities in the community, i.e., entering into joint use agreements with Broward Public Library and Florida Atlantic University.

Partnerships

Our students are well served by the University/College Library at Central Campus and at North and South Campuses through collaborative agreements with Broward Public Library. The University/College Library, a joint use facility operated under an agreement with FAU, owns over 235,000 titles and more than 386,000 volumes. South Regional has 195,000 titles and 6,800 periodical titles. North Campus students have access to 250,000 titles. These collections include materials that specifically support the programs in Education we are planning to offer. For instance, there are 14,330 titles that pertain to Education not counting reference materials. The table below presents more details.

Discipline	General Collection	Reference	Audiovisual
Education	14,330	541	436
Science, general	2,031	334	348
Mathematics	5,015	112	1,194
Biology	3,936	257	(included in Science count)

Online Resources

The U/C Library provides access to over 6,000 ebooks. At North Regional and South Regional Libraries, students have access to approximately 28,285 ebooks, with 402 on Education. These titles are available electronically to all Broward College students from any computer. In addition, through the collaborative efforts of the College Center for Library Automation, Broward College students can access online hundreds of journals as well as over 140 databases, many of them full text. Of these databases, 11 are directly related to the subject of Education, and nine cover topics in the sciences. It should be noted that faculty are involved in the collection development process, with liaisons representing Broward College department or FAU colleges providing input in the selection process. Going forward, it would be prudent to designate recurring funds to ensure that the collections remain current.

Staff

The College has professional staff on hand to assist students, faculty and staff with their information needs. Faculty librarians at all campuses hold a master's degree in Library Science from an ALA accredited institution. Classes in the use of traditional and electronic resources are held in consultation with instructional faculty, and students can receive one-on-one instruction either by inquiring at a reference desk at any one of the libraries or by scheduling a session with a reference librarian. Last year, over 7,500 students took advantage of this instruction at Central Campus. At South Campus, including Pines and Weston, 2,200 students attended instructional sessions. North Campus had 500 students participate in their sessions. This component is extremely important because it provides direction and interpretation of resources so critical for many of our students.

Resource Sharing

The University/College library and Broward Public Library participate in resource sharing with other libraries. For instance, students can visit other area libraries and borrow materials through our membership in the Southeast Florida Library Information Network (SEFLIN). In addition, our students, faculty and staff borrow materials via interlibrary loan from the many participating libraries. Considering the strength of our collections, our excellent staff, the facilities, the technology, and the collaborative agreements in place, we can categorically state that Broward College has the information resources available to support the proposed programs.