

Library Scavenger Hunts

* Find sample questions to copy & paste on the next page! *

Please DOs (and some please DON'Ts) for planning a successful activity

Scavenger hunts can be a great way to engage your students with UC Riverside Library, or as part of a larger orientation to campus resources and services. Here are some suggestions from our Teaching and Learning librarians on organizing a successful scavenger hunt as part of your welcome activities or course assignments.

Please DO

Focus on introducing students to library spaces, services, and resources they can use throughout their time at UCR.

Pair your scavenger hunt with one of the many digital learning resources available from the Library! These include our [online learning modules](#), [subject guides](#), [research services](#), and the Library's [YouTube Channel](#).

Ask students to use our Instagram-style photo frame and Selfie Bear at the Rivera Library Information Desk if you would like students to take a selfie to document their presence in the library. Or, assign a selfie with the portraits of Chancellor Rivera or Chancellor Orbach, located in the library entrances!

Consider starting or ending your hunt with an [instruction session](#) tailored to your assignment and course outcomes, or one of our [excellent workshops](#).

Would you like your students to interview or meet with a library employee? Please DO schedule an appointment using our [consultation request form](#).

Please DON'T

Assign activities that might disrupt others using and working in the library. The Open Study Areas on the 2nd Floors of the Orbach Science Library and Rivera Library, the Special Collections Costo Reading Room, and the Special Collections Reading Room are designated "Quiet Spaces."

Ask students to perform activities that are wasteful or potentially damaging to university property, such as removing items from the library (not including checkouts, of course!) or rearranging furniture.

Include questions that might make library employees or other library users feel uncomfortable, such as requiring students to take pictures or recordings of employees.

We strongly recommend that you notify the library when you plan to assign a scavenger hunt so we can ensure we have staff and resources ready to support your students.

If the library is not aware of your scavenger hunt and no staff are available, we may have to turn students away or ask them to return when staff are scheduled.

To notify the library, please contact Teaching & Learning libteaching@ucr.edu

Sample Scavenger Hunt Questions

Please DO copy/paste & modify for your own use!

Questions about Library Spaces

Q: How many Multimedia Viewing and Gaming rooms are available in Rivera Library?

A: Four. Rivera 227 and 228 are viewing rooms, & Rivera 229 and 230 are gaming rooms.

Q: List the room number for one reservable group study room

A: Rivera: 206-218, 220-226, 306-316, 318-323.

Orbach: 208-210, 213-218, 222-223, 229-230, 234, 238, 308-310, 313-318, 322-323, 329-330, 334.

Q: Take a picture of the UCR Bear Necessities Laptop Kiosk

A: There are two kiosks to the left of the Circulation/Reserves desk at Rivera Library. There is one kiosk on the opposite side of the lobby facing the Circulation/Reserves desk at Orbach Library.

Q: What is the name of the printing service offered on the first floor of both the Rivera and Orbach Libraries?

A: Wepa Print

Q: What is the name of the current exhibit in the Special Collections and University Archives reading room?

A: Winter 2023- Fall 2023: "The Power of Language: A Gathering of Languages on Parchment and Paper."

Exhibits information can be found at <https://scua.ucr.edu/exhibits-and-displays>.

Questions about Library Resources

Q: What is the name of the service that allows you to access all electronic/online UCR Library resources from off-campus?

A: VPN or Virtual Proxy Network

Q: Using UC Library Search, what is the title of the book with the call number PQ7079.2.R5 Z88 1988? (Hint: Enter the call number starting with PQ into the UC Library Search bar.)

A: Tomás Rivera, 1935-1984: *The Man and his Work*

Q: Name one of the 15+ streaming video resources available from UCR Library

A: Academic Video Online (AVON), Anatomy.TV, Anthropology Online, Bates Visual Guide to Physical Examination, Dance in Video, Digital Theatre +, Ethnographic Video Online, Henry Stewart Biomedical and Life Sciences Collection, Internet Archive Moving Image Archive, JoVE, Kanopy Streaming Videos, Latest Thinking, LGBT Thought and Culture, O'Reilly Higher Education, Swank Digital Campus, Theatre in Video, World Newsreels Online, 1929-1966. A complete list can be found at <https://guides.lib.ucr.edu/az.php?t=39549>.

Q: Find a book on the second floor with only one word in the title. Write down the title, and the call number (Hint: The call number is on the spine of the book).

A: Varies

Q: Name three items you can check out from the UCR Library that aren't books.

A: Bike locks, HDMI cables, USB chargers, curriculum/instruction kits, teaching materials/teaching aids (realia), CDs, DVDs, video games, software, scientific, graphing, financial, and basic calculators, whiteboards and markers, book carts.

Questions about Library Services

Q: How long do most course reserves check out for?

A: 2 hours

Q: What is the name of the service that allows you to freely order books, articles, and resources from other libraries?

A: Interlibrary Loan, or ILL

Q: Take a selfie at the Rivera InfoDesk with the selfie frame or bear.

A: The Rivera InfoDesk is to the right of the Rivera Library Circulation/Reserves desk when entering.

Q: What are the hours for the library chat reference service?

A: 24/7!

Q: The library offers many workshops. List the name of one upcoming workshop.

A: For all library workshop events, see <https://library.ucr.edu/node/2378>

Q: Snap a selfie with a sewing machine in Orbach Library.

A: Sewing machines and many other creative tools are available in the Creat'R Lab.

Questions that Develop Research and Information Skills

Q: Using UC Library Search, find a book in a language other than English published before 1950. Write the title, author, and publication date below.

A: Varies

Q: What is the name of one of the Research Fundamentals videos found on the library website?

A: VPN, UC Library Search, Get it at UC, Reserves, Call Numbers: How to find a physical book in the Library, Search Strategy: How to create successful searches in Library databases, Database Searching: Discover time-saving tools for conducting research, Using the Opposing Viewpoints in Context Database, Avoiding Plagiarism, Citing Your Sources, Managing Your Sources, Citation Series Workshops, Conducting a Literature Review, Writing an Annotated Bibliography, Primary Sources, Ebook Readers

Q: Find the "Getting Started" Subject Guide for your major/program. What is the email contact of the librarian listed on the guide?

A: Varies. Find the "Getting Started" Subject Guides at <https://library.ucr.edu/research-support/finding-and-evaluating-information/browse-disciplinary-subject-guides>

Q: The Library has citation style guides available for APA, ASA, Chicago, and _____?

A: MLA

Q: Write the name of a database from the library you might use to write a paper on growing avocados and their benefits to heart health.

A: UCR Library provides access to over 500 databases, which can be found alphabetically and by subject at <https://guides.lib.ucr.edu/az.php>. Some options include AGRICOLA, CAB Direct, Web of Science, Access Medicine, PubMed@UCR, and Medline Plus.