Social Science & Humanities Library

UOIT’s newest branch library is the Social Science Library located at 61 Charles Street in downtown Oshawa. The 10,000 sq. ft. space brings the books, media, and other information resources to a convenient location for both students and faculty. Seating for approximately 150 students is available, including the quiet study area and instructional classroom. The quiet study area is open to all library users and provides a place for individual study. On hand are approximately 10,000 physical books and other items which support the curriculum.

The Library is OPEN!

Students and faculty were welcomed into the new Social Science Library for the Winter semester. Staff on-site are also eager to provide assistance with the library’s digital collections of 100,000 e-books, 46,000 e-journals, and 8,000 streaming videos.

“The Social Science Library staff are a wonderful group of people to work with. They have always been extremely helpful and friendly whenever I have used the library.”
Spaces

The Quiet Study Room

The Quiet Study Room has 70 cubicles for individual study. Its large windows and high ceilings provide an airy and spacious area for study.

“Nice space, beautiful quiet study room. It is a nice addition to our campus.”

Stephanie Orfano—Social Sciences & Humanities Librarian

Stephanie Orfano works out of the Social Science Library in downtown Oshawa. Stephanie liaises with faculty, staff and students to develop the library’s collection and create services, focusing on the needs of the Faculty of Social Science & Humanities. Subject areas of focus include: statistics/data, sociology, psychology, criminology, law, gender and communication studies. She received a BA in Media, Information, & Technoculture from the University of Western Ontario, and a Master of Information Studies from the University of Toronto.

The library instruction room, used for Information Literacy classes, is also used for student tutoring.

“The library staff did a wonderful job in trying to resolve a problem I had today. Even though it was a minor issue the effort and time they took to help me out was fantastic!!”
The Collection

The Social Science Library serves the specific information needs of the students, staff and faculty in the Social Sciences, especially in criminology, justice, psychology, sociology, and communication studies.

In addition to the books available within the library, students and faculty can access the libraries’ digital collection which comprises 75% of the entire library collection. This digital collection is available to students at any time wherever they have internet access. Among the items included in the collection are Canadian and Ontario laws, statutes and regulations, as well as other legal and curriculum related resources.

New Title Browsing—The Digital Bookshelf

The Social Science Library’s collection continues to grow with the acquirement of approximately 1,000 new books to the library’s shelves. To highlight the new books at the Social Science Library a digital bookshelf has been created to encourage browsing through the new books by major subject area (98 subject areas) or by title. Just a brief sample of available bookshelves:

Monthly Displays

The Monthly displays not only highlight areas within the Social Science Library’s Collection but they also promote materials published by UOIT Faculty. For example, the current **Women in the Social Sciences** display contains *Policing Race and Place in Indian Country* by Barbara Perry, *The Female Serial Murderer* by Hannah Scott, *Charting Women’s Journeys* by Judith Grant, *Race and the City* by Shanti Fernando and more!
Leisure Collection

A small collection of new paperbacks is now available at the Social Science Library. This collection provides students with books for pleasure reading, but also encourages the lifelong joy of reading.

Gate Count on the Rise!

Have the students found the Social Science Library? Yes, they have! From the library’s first opening in January 2011 to the end of the fiscal year, traffic continued to increase.

“It is easily accessible ..... I love that it is so easy to access from Bond Street”.

Historical Building

The building that is now the home of the University of Ontario Institute of Technology, Social Sciences & Humanities Faculty at 61 Charles Street in Oshawa, was originally built in 1903 by the T. Eaton Company as a white goods factory. It was expanded in the 1920’s by the Oriental Textile Company, an automotive fabric manufacturer. After that, for nearly 50 years it was the business place for Alger Press Ltd. The building is now used to accommodate the Social Sciences & Humanities library, classrooms, and student services space.