

General Alfred M. Gray Marine Corps Research Center



MISSION

The mission of the GRC is to support the study of expeditionary and amphibious warfare throughout the Marine Corps by providing comprehensive storage, retrieval, analysis, and distribution of warfighting-related information.

The Gray Research Center (GRC), which opened in May of 1993, is the culmination of a vision to establish a first-class library-archives complex at Quantico that would support not only the resident students of the Marine Corps University but also serve the information needs of Marines worldwide. Its intent is to provide worldwide patrons with ready access to an extensive collection of monographs and journals, historically significant archival documents, products of current scholarly research, and operational lessons learned in order to support professional military education and stimulate the development and implementation of concepts, doctrine, tactics, techniques, and procedures.

The GRC consists of three Branches:

- The MCU James Carson Breckinridge University Library
- The MCU Research Archives
- The MCU Conference Center

The Quantico Family Library is also housed in the Research Center and is under the operational control of the University Library.

The MCU Breckinridge Library

The mission of the University Library is to serve the students, faculty, and staff of the Marine Corps University as well as Marine Corps patrons throughout the world in their pursuit of excellence in academic and research projects. The Library acquires, identifies, accesses, organizes, publicizes, and disseminates

research information and resources with its broadly based multi-disciplinary collection of books, serials, on-line databases, and other non-print media.

The library's collections of books, journals, and reports are selected for relevancy to the Gray Research Center's mission and University interest areas. In addition to a superb collection of expeditionary and amphibious warfare materials, the library also has exceptionally strong collections in the new sciences, leadership, Civil War history, World War II, and general military science. The library includes approximately 150,000 volumes, 700 periodicals, and 120,000 microforms. The Library subscribes to a variety of CD-ROM, online and web-based databases, and information resources. Some are available to the public and others are available only to students and faculty of the university.

Located on the first deck are over 50 patron computer work-stations, group study rooms, a reading room containing current journals, the reference and index collection, a small map collection, non-circulating military manuals, the bound journal and microform collections, and a Marine Corps lessons-learned collection. The Quantico Family Library, also located on the first deck, offers a broad range of materials including popular fiction and non-fiction books, educational CD-ROM software, children's literature, and audio books.

The second deck contains the circulating collection of the University Library as well as a Special Collections room with volumes of rare and unique Marine Corps related materials.

The University Library is a selective Federal Depository and regularly receives shipments of print, microform, and CD-ROM publications from the US Government Printing Office and federal agencies. The scope of these materials is limited to the research needs of the Marine Corps University, and the number of documents maintained is relatively small. Anyone who comes to the Library may use the materials.

The Library Reference Staff is available to help patrons locate information both in the Library and from other resources. They will assist patrons in using print, microform, CD-ROM, on-line, and Internet resources. With advance scheduling they will provide specialized briefings, based on specific need, for individuals or groups on resources available within our collection and through the library's electronic outreach. Students are encouraged to make contact with the Reference Staff early in the school year in order to make the research process easier and more efficient.

The Library actively borrows and lends materials through a nationwide Interlibrary Loan cooperative. Most items not available in-house can be borrowed from another library. The Library has a cooperative agreement with the National Defense University (NDU) Library enabling MCU students and faculty to hand carry Interlibrary Loans between the two libraries. Students and faculty should stop by the Library before visiting the NDU Library to pick up the appropriate paperwork. The Library also has an agreement with the FBI Academy Library enabling MCU students to check out items directly from the FBI Academy Library.

The Marine Corps University Library is a member of the Military Education Coordinating Council (MECC) Library Working Group (LWG) consisting of the libraries for the following institutions:

Air University	Joint Forces Staff College
Marine Corps University	National Defense University
Naval War College	U. S. Army War College
U.S. Naval Academy	Naval Post Graduate School
U.S. Military Academy	U.S. Coast Guard Academy
U.S. Air Force Academy	Army Command & General Staff College

The MECC LWG is a consortium that works jointly on interlibrary loans, purchasing database access, and in the development and maintenance of the Military Education Research Library Network (MERLN), located at <http://merln.ndu.edu> a web-based search engine allowing searching of either individual or groups of MECC Library catalogs.

The Library homepage contains a variety of links, including ones to:

Library Catalog	Journal – Magazines
Online Publications	Sites of Interest

Students are encouraged to review the Library Home Page when conducting research: www.mcu.usmc.mil/MCRCweb.

Library Hours of Operation

Mon – Thurs 0730-1945
Friday 0730-1745
Saturday 1000-1745
Sunday Closed

Library Telephone Numbers

Reference and Interlibrary loan 703-784-4409/4411
FAX 703-784-4306
Family Library 703-4348/4353

MCU Research Archives

The mission of the Marine Corps University Research Archives is to support the Professional Military Education [PME] requirements of the Marine Corps University [MCU] and the Marine Corps worldwide. To accomplish this mission, the Research Archives collects copies of Marine Corps documents in support of PME research and writing. These documents include, but are not limited to, correspondence, reports, operation plans, after action reports, studies, photographs, films, videos, sound recordings, diaries and maps and span Marine Corps activities from 1775 to the present time.

The Research Archives, which holds approximately eight million original documents, consists of the following areas:

Official Documents	Digitized Collection
Personal Papers	Oral Histories
Visual Information	Student Theses
Research Collection	

These areas offer a comprehensive collection of historical and primary resources not only to MCU and MCCDC personnel, but also to Marines and civilians worldwide. The MCU Research Archives does not circulate its collection, but can reproduce any of its unclassified holdings upon request.

Contents of the official documents collections include, but are not limited to: the schools' collections dating from the School of Application [1891] to the

Marine Corps War College (MCWAR) [1998]; original documents from the Civil War, Spanish-American War, WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, and the Gulf War; Military Operations Other Than War (MOOTW); research and development, including history of landing craft, development of helicopters, light armed vehicles, remotely piloted vehicles; leadership styles; development of advanced bases and advanced base problems; the Hogaboom Report; and post-war reorganization of the Marine Corps.

By direction of the CMC, the MCU Research Archives is the official repository for personal papers collections of the United States Marine Corps and houses approximately 4,000 collections. A representative sample of these collections includes the personal papers of most of the CMCs and Assistant CMCs; the papers of Smedley D. Butler, Louis B. "Chesty" Puller, O. P. Smith, James C. Breckinridge, and Robert L. Meade; as well as WWI aviation records. Additionally, this section holds personal papers of Marines of all ranks who served during WWI, China, WWII, Korea, and Vietnam.

The Visual Information Repository (VIR) serves as the visual archives for the Marine Corps and contains approximately 6,000 films and videos and over 100,000 slides dating from WWI to the present day. Included in this collection are visuals of Belleau Woods and other battles of the American Expeditionary Force, early training at Quantico [1929-1930], and Marines in Nicaragua, Panama, WWII, Korean War, Vietnam War, and Beirut.

The Classified Documents section holds approximately 1,200 documents representative of activities of the Marine Corps from the Gulf War to the present time. Proper clearance and a need to know are required for access to this area of the MCU Research Archives.

Currently, the MCU Research Archives staff is scanning selected documents from the official and personal collections for placement on the Internet. Some of these can be viewed at the Archives' Digitized Collection link along with related documents from other sites. The Archives Home Page also contains a variety of Archival Links. Students are encouraged to review these links when conducting their research.

Archives Hours of Operation

The MCU Research Archives is located on the second deck, GRC, Rooms 207-215, and is open:

Mon/Wed-Fri: 0730-1700

Archives Telephone Numbers

Tues: 0730-1945

Main Number: 703-784-4685/4538

Sat: 1st and 3rd Saturdays

FAX: 703-784-4306

1000-1400

VIR: 703-784-1997

Sun: Closed

VIR FAX: 703-784-3266

MCU CONFERENCE CENTER

The Gray Research Center houses a state-of-the-art conference facility that includes a 250-person auditorium and modular seminar rooms that can support an additional 100 people. Each modular unit can accommodate up to 30 people. An additional 9 smaller rooms located throughout the building can support seminar groups and breakout sections. The Conference Center is able to support video-teleconferencing.