

Nahum Gelber Law Library



A Self-Guided Library Tour

Welcome to the Nahum Gelber Law Library. This brief tour will allow you to learn about the physical layout of the building, the services provided by the library and how to locate materials for assignments, course readings, reserves etc. The tour should take you about 30 minutes.

The Nahum Gelber Law Library is attached to the Faculty of Law buildings, located on the west side of Peel Street, above Dr. Penfield. The main entrance at 3660 Peel provides access to both the Nahum Gelber Law Library and the Faculty of Law buildings. Once through a first set of doors, you come to the main double doors leading directly into the Law Library. To your left is a single door which leads to the Atrium and on to the Faculty of Law which is housed in the Old and New Chancellor Day Hall buildings. The wall of donors is on the right hand side of this corridor.

Upon entering the Law Library through the main lobby doors, you will see the display cases on your right hand side. These cases contain books and articles recently published by the Faculty, as well as an exhibition of Inuit art.

The Ground Floor

Once past the security system you will be in the foyer area of the ground floor. Here you will find three public workstations. These computers can be used by students or guests who have signed in with the appropriate username and password (guest.library@mcgill.ca / guest123). An uPrint enabled photocopier/ scanner/ printer is located in the photocopy area, as well as a Spirit Book Scanner, that saves directly to a USB drive.

Directly in front of the main doors is a wide foyer area with the **Exhibition Display Cases**, where we present different law related exhibitions during the year. Interactive digital signage allows you to see library floorplans, find your book's location, check computers availability, and verify our opening hours. Next to it, you will find the self-check machine, which permits users to sign out materials, and the **New Books Display**.

A circular stairway to the right of the new books display leads only to the second floor of the library. To the right of the circular stairway, the **Reference Collection** is shelved according to LC classification. Please note that items in this particular collection are for in library use only. Right next to the Reference Collection is the **Wellness collection and de-stress corner**, where you can help build a puzzle.

To the left of the stairway, behind the elevators, you will find washrooms, a water fountain and the stairs to the basement. Access to the other floors is by the elevators or internal staircases located on the left and right sides of the building.

Past the elevators is the **Dobrin-Steinberg Classroom**. It is used for legal research training, library instruction, and database training. When not in use for teaching, the classroom may be used by students for research or preparing documents. The schedule for the use of this classroom is available [on McGill Library website](#) and on the display case outside the classroom.

There is one phone/tablet charging station on this floor.

Loans/Information Desk

Facing the elevators on the ground floor is the **Loans/Information Desk**, which is the first place to ask for help. Research help is available from this desk, which handles both loans and information questions. Please note that you may return *most borrowed material to any of the McGill libraries*.

At the **Loans/Information Desk** you can:

- Borrow and return materials
- Pick up interlibrary loans, recalls, and hold items
- Initiate searches for missing items
- Pay fines
- Borrow course reserve materials
- Check for lost and found items
- Book group study rooms (reservations to be made by McGill law students only)
- Get general information about library services
- Ask for research help

- *Remember to use the [Law Library webpage](#) to find out more about the facilities and services available at the Nahum Gelber Law Library. The [library catalogue](#) is designed to help you find out what information and resources are available at McGill. Once you have your call number, consult the digital floor plans to find out where your material is located.*

Other Floors

The **Second Floor** can be reached by the spiral staircase. At the top of the staircase behind the elevator is the **John P. Humphrey United Nations Collection**, specialized in genocide and human rights. Facing the glass windows at the top of the staircase is the **Peter M. Laing Special Collections room**, which houses the **Canadiana, Wainwright, and Mackay collections, as well as our Law Faculty Publications**. If you need to consult an item from any of these collections, please ask for assistance at the Loans/Information Desk on the ground floor.

Beyond the Special Collections room is the door to Library administration and staff offices. At the Peel Street side of the building, there is a group study room which can be booked by law students at the

Loans/Information Desk. There is a big study area and a photocopy room with an uPrint photocopier/ scanner/ printer and another Spirit Book Scanner. In front of the photocopy room you will also find two quiet pods.

The **Third, Fourth, and Fifth Floors** house the general collection, organized using the Library of Congress Classification System. The third floor has a large reading and study area. Behind the elevators is the Moot complex with study rooms for the competitive moot teams. In front of the Moot complex there is one more quiet pod. On the third and fourth floors, at the Peel Street side of the building, are group study rooms which can be booked by law students at the Loans/Information Desk. There are graduate student carrels on the 5th floor.

The **Basement** contains print journals shelved in alphabetical order, case law reporters, Federal and Provincial statutes and regulations, microfilm and microfiche items. There is a microfiche reader on this floor. Behind the elevators are Air & Space Law documents, as well as old casebooks.