

To meet the needs and expectations of its users, Wrocław University Library (BUWr) has prepared access to full information about the Library's collections, resources, services and agendas through the website available in three languages (Polish, English, and German). The Library's website offers self-access (including remote) to information, resources and services for all users (mainly students, PhD candidates, and UWr employees), and provides support related to the preparation and publication of scientific papers and research projects. Additionally, the website provides details of the Institutional Policy of Open Science at the University.

The online service package provides:

- **Online Library registration**
- **Online Search service** - enables a distant service of library, bibliographical, and matter searches
- **Interlibrary loans** - a tender is directed to libraries, employees, and students of the University of Wrocław who possess a valid library card
- **Ordering copies** - the service enables remote ordering of reprographic copies of library's materials from general and special collections of BUWr
- **Digitisation on demand** can be realised for each not yet digitised item from special collections or from the 19th century collection of the Library
- **Access to licensed electronic information resources** from the outside of the UWr computer network (proxy server) for the UWr employees, students, and PhD candidates
- **Ask a librarian** - the service enables sending any questions concerning the use of Library by means of special electronic forms or live chat
- **Online desideratum** - via interactive form, every user of BUWr is able to co-decide about the creation of the Library's traditional and digital collections as, well as about its services and their form

Additionally, via its Website, Wrocław University Library ensures free online access to:

- **Digital Library of University of Wrocław (BCUWr)** that enables preservation and full text popularisation of the rich BUWr resources recognised as the cultural heritage
- **Repository of University of Wrocław (RUWr)** that archives and disseminates scientific achievements and promotes research results of employees, PhD candidates as well as students (selected) of the University of Wrocław or published at the University
- **Licensed or Open Access scientific information sources** (databases, electronic journals, e-books)
- **Complete catalogue information about BUWr collections and resources** accessible via electronic catalogues, digitised catalogues and dedicated subject portals (E-Sources' Module)
- **Training packages for remote users** accessible in BUWr E-learning Module
- **Supporting search systems**, i.e. central multi-search engine

The Internet services are available through the Library's website

www.bu.uni.wroc.pl



Library's agenda:

Library's Information Point

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e-mail: oin.bu@uwr.edu.pl

Informatory

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Local Lending Department

level 1
phone +48 71 375 76 01
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Interlibrary Lending Department

level 1
phone: +48 71 375 76 02, 71 375 76 00
e-mail: wmb.bu@uwr.edu.pl

Current (and Archived) Periodicals Reading Room

level 2
phone +48 71 346 31 22
e-mail: sc.bu@uwr.edu.pl

Free Access 1

level 2
phone: +48 71 375 76 22
e-mail: opz.bu@uwr.edu.pl

Free Access 2

level 3
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Main Reading Room

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Silesian Collection Reading Room

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Special Collections' Reading Room

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GENERAL COLLECTIONS

The University Library General Collections include new prints, i.e. books and periodicals; published after 1800 as well as a still increasing number of electronic documents.

The stock is composed of new acquisitions collected from the year 1945, book collections of the former Municipal Library and the former University Library, the abandoned collections from the area of the Lower Silesia as well as post-mansion collections' fragments. Book collections incorporated as a result of post-war revindication process enriched Wrocław University Library collections especially with German, French, and English literary output from the 19th c. and the beginning of the 20th c.

An extremely valuable part of the general collections are cimelia, i.e. a set of books of exceptional artistic, historical or commemorative value, preserved in a separate and additionally protected storehouse. The cimelia include books in valuable covers with press-marks made by Polish or foreign (mainly French) bookbinders. Among them there are also library objects of untypical size and with various easily destroyable appendices. The library also possesses a rich didactic books' collection, which consists of volumes forming an essential reading list canon to realise academic curriculum. The University Library together with branch libraries collects many titles of domestic and foreign current periodicals and via licensed online services guarantees access to many full-text electronic journals, e-books as well as databases.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

The Wrocław University Library Special Collections are among the richest in Poland. They are unique collections amounting to over half million units forming scientific and didactic workshop for academic employees and students of the University of Wrocław as well as for many Polish and foreign guests. Special and specialized collections are accessible in Special Collections' Reading Room following special rules and regulations.



The **Department of Manuscripts** preserves handwritten collections rescued after WWII as well as manuscripts acquired after the year 1945. The core of the collection is a set of manuscripts of two greatest pre-war Wrocław libraries: State and University Library, Municipal Library as well as a stock of so-called accessed manuscripts derived from many Silesian libraries collections. The holding presently amounts to 13.000 units and is one of the greatest and most diversified in Poland. It contains the most numerous assortment of medieval manuscripts in the country (circa 3.000 units), Oriental collection (circa 340 manuscripts), 41 Greek manuscripts, and 11 written in Cyrillic. Ample and valuable is also a collection of autographs (circa 17.000 units) including a number of 16th-17th c. album collection. A distinctive feature of the Wrocław stock of manuscripts are Silesian cities' chronicles, calendars, historical elaborations, genealogical materials, and other remarkably valuable sources to research the history of Silesia as well as the largest collection of medieval manuscripts in Poland.

The **Old Printed Books Department** treasures prints from the 15th c. to the 18th c. Among the Polish collections of old printed books Wrocław University Library resources belong to the most numerous in the country (more than 310.000 units in 230.000 volumes) and they are distinguished by a great number of works, typed by illustrious European printers. The métier of the book collection is, above all, the local typographic output. The Silesiaca form a rich and inappreciable source to multilateral scientific research on the history of Silesia. To the most valuable objects belong incunabula (3.270 units). Among the 16th c. prints from various European publishing centres many are rare and known in the world only in few copies. The collection also contains a great number of rare Czech prints, often curiosities. Polish and Polish matters papers (Polonica), proportionally constitute the most numerous collection and include editions preserved exclusively in Wrocław.

The **Graphic Collections Department** gathers the works which originate from the period from the 15th century onwards. There are drawings, graphics, ex libris, photographs, picture postcards, and reproductions in the form of loose tables, cases, albums, artificial albums as well as illustrations in compact and periodical prints. A topographic and thematic scope of collection is unlimited, though it does show a visible Silesian and Lusatian inclination. The department's book collection contains numerous 19th century descriptions of the world, travel reports, and inventories of works of art.

In the **Cartographic Collections Department** we treasure cartographic documents of various kinds: individual maps, section maps, atlases and a dozen or so globes. Among them one finds several exceptional units, many a time on the world scale. In sum, the maps collection can be regarded as most significant in Europe in terms of value, origin and the subject field.



The resources of the **Music Collections Department** consist of printed scores, music manuscripts, musicological books, musical journals, rich music bibliographies, encyclopaedias, dictionaries, musician monographs, composers' thematic catalogues, publishing house and bookshop catalogues as well as opera libretti. Most interesting part of the collection is a production of Italian publishing houses (nearly 400 units from the 16th - 17th c.). A different group is made of prints of composers either born or working in Silesia. Occasional prints deserve special attention and due to their specificity and low print run are often rarities. Apart from printed scores, 18th - 19th c. music manuscripts are a considerable part of the collection.

The collection of the **Silesian and Lausitz prints** is the only in Poland set of regional profile made of book and press publications issued before and after 1945. In this collection a special place is occupied by Polonica. Also, the Lausitz collection is of great value. Apart from these two, very valuable are also Wratislaviana, merged into the collection of Ys (Polish: Igrek), in which a significant number of old prints can be found. While some prints have a religious theme, the majority of them are unique publications referring to the history of Wrocław. An invaluable source of historical information is made of occasional prints the publishing of which was accompanied by various official or social events in Wrocław and in the region.

The **Special Collections' Conservation Workshop** deals with preservation and conservation of special collections' stock, assessment of the state of preservation in the context of preparation for the digitisation process and project implementation, prepares objects to domestic and foreign expositions, composes a photographic documentation of conservation, takes care of the reference books of separate department (often also antique ones) as well as of conservator's supervision as it refers to conditions of collections' safe-keeping, in line with effectuating the conservator's opinions and pricing.

The **New Collections' Conservation Workshop** provides binding for books and magazines from book storage and reference book collection of the Library as well as the maintenance and repair of damaged publications, including various types of binding, such as canvas and semi-canvas for new publications, leather bindings for exceptionally valuable and rare publications, and also new bindings for publications issued in the 19th and early 20th c. The Conservation Workshop also deals with bookbinding haberdashery.

The **Reprographic and Digitisation Unit** deals with microfilm and digital protection of most precious collections stored in the Library. Its activity supports planned special collections' protection carried out by the Library and the realisation of its projects. The Unit belongs to one of the best equipped units in Poland and is formed by a team of high quality specialists in digitisation and presentation of cultural heritage objects. The Unit also duplicates materials following the orders of external users. The services realised in the Unit are made on modern equipment to guarantee superior quality of duplication materials.

