

## **General Regulations 2008-9**

### **Library**

#### **1. Introduction**

The purpose of these Regulations is to enable users to make the fullest use of the University Library resources, buildings and services, hereinafter referred to as the 'Library'. The Regulations apply to all libraries administered by the Director of Information Services, referred to from here on as the 'Director', and may be enforced by any member of Information Services staff acting on behalf of the Director.

In the Regulations, the word 'book' means any book, pamphlet, periodical, manuscript, map, microform or other material which forms part of the Library's collections.

Users of the Library are reminded that Library Regulations have the force of University Regulations for discipline. Any penalties imposed for breaching the Regulations fall within the framework of the University's disciplinary system.

#### **2. Access to the Library**

- i. Details of the opening hours of the Library are available from the Library website. Significant changes to this schedule will normally be agreed by the University Operating Board.
- ii. Details of who may use the Library appear in Library Regulations Schedule 1: Access to the Queen's University Library.
- iii. All persons entering the Library must show acceptable proof of identity on request.
- iv. Everyone in the Library must leave when requested to do so by Library staff.

#### **3. Conduct in the Library**

Any disorderly conduct in the Library, or any behaviour which unfairly inconveniences other users or causes damage or the risk of damage to books, furniture, equipment or the fabric of the building, constitutes a breach of the Regulations.

Regulations for orderly conduct in the Library include the following:

- i. Use only the prescribed entrances and exits.
- ii. Do not take bulky personal possessions (suitcases, etc.) into the Library.
- iii. Study areas in the Library may be designated as silent, quiet or available for group work. Out of consideration for others, users must maintain good order and observe the rule relating to noise applying to each area.
- iv. Switch mobile phones to silent on entering the Library and only use them in areas designated for this purpose.
- v. Do not consume food or drink in the Library except in areas designated for this purpose.
- vi. Do not damage or deface any Library book or other Library property.
- vii. Show your University/Library identity card to a member of Library staff if asked to do so.
- viii. Show your books, bags, etc., to a member of Library staff when leaving the Library, if asked to do so.
- ix. A user vacating his or her place will be deemed to have left the Library. His or her books and papers may be cleared by Library staff and the place taken by another user, unless a note of the time of leaving is left on the table. The place may then be reserved for up to twenty minutes.

#### **4. Borrowing**

- i. Detailed borrowing regulations for different categories of users and materials appear in Library Regulations Schedule 2: Borrowing from the Queen's University Library.
- ii. Books must not be removed from the Library unless they have been borrowed in accordance with the Regulations.
- iii. Notices sent from the Library within the University are normally sent by electronic mail. Email notices to students are sent to the QUB Student Mail Service address.
- iv. Fines will be charged on overdue books.
- v. Users with outstanding fines will not be allowed to borrow further books until the fines are paid. The Director or any other person nominated by the Director shall have the power to remit or reduce fines in a particular case.
- vi. Users will be considered to be in default if, within a reasonable time and without lodging an objection, they fail to (a) return any book recalled by the Library or (b) pay any fine which had been imposed by the Library.
- vii. Users who are in default will, after written warning, be suspended from use of the Library. This suspension will be reported, according to the category of user, to the Director of Academic and Student Affairs (students), Director of Information Services (academic staff) or to such other person as is appropriate for the particular user. A student who is in default with the Library will also be recommended for suspension from the University.
- viii. Users who lose or deface a book belonging to the Library will be required to pay a sum of money to enable the purchase of a replacement copy (or replacement set).

#### **5. Other services and resources**

- i. Requests for inter-library loans may be made according to such quotas and charges as may from time to time be applied.
- ii. The use of computing facilities in the Library is governed by the University's Information Security Policy and associated regulations. Where information is made available in electronic form, users must observe all conditions of use imposed by vendors as part of the licensing or sale of their products.
- iii. All users of Library materials, whether in Library buildings or elsewhere, are personally responsible for ensuring that they observe the requirements of the copyright legislation currently in force in the United Kingdom; failure to do so will be regarded as a serious breach of University discipline in addition to any liability incurred under the law. Whether in Library buildings or elsewhere, members of the University copying Library books under the terms of any licensing scheme currently in force within the University are personally responsible for ensuring strict adherence to the rules of any such scheme, and any breach of these rules will be regarded as a serious breach of University discipline.
- iv. Personal laptop computers may be used in designated areas of the Library provided that they do not disturb other users. The University accepts no responsibility for such equipment or for data stored. Such equipment may be connected to the University network in designated wireless areas.

#### **Library Regulations Schedule One:**

##### **Access to the Queen's University Library**

The following may use the Library as registered users:

- (a) enrolled undergraduate students and postgraduate students pursuing a taught course of the University;
- (b) enrolled research students of the University;

- (c) members and retired members of the academic, academic related, clerical and technical staff of the University, honorary graduates and honorary lecturers;
- (d) members of the Senate and of the governing bodies of institutions associated with the University, during their term of office;
- (e) Recognised Teachers of the University and Teaching Assistants in accordance with the agreed criteria;
- (f) Associate Members paying an annual subscription;
- (g) those who are covered by the SCONUL Access Scheme;
- (h) those who are covered by a special agreement with the Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute (AFBI);
- (i) those who are covered by a special agreement with the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (DHSSPS).

Undergraduates and taught postgraduates from Higher Education Institutions that are members of SCONUL can apply for access to the Library during vacation. They will need their current student card as proof of identity. The vacation access scheme does not include borrowing privileges or access to electronic information sources. However, it will allow reference access to the main printed collections.

The Library may permit visits from members of the public, who cannot otherwise obtain access to books they need, to consult printed materials held at Queen's. Visitors will need to bring proof of identity and register their details with the Library. Visitors should note that some of Queen's collections are restricted to members of Queen's University, and that access to electronic information sources is not normally permitted.

## **Library Regulations Schedule Two:**

### **Borrowing from the Queen's University Library**

Books in ordinary open-access collections are available for use within the Library without formality, and may be borrowed on the conditions set out below. The following categories of material are not normally available for use outside the Library:

- (a) designated works of reference;
  - (b) new books on display;
  - (c) books and other materials held in the Library Special Collections;
  - (d) all periodicals;
  - (e) law reports and legislation; and
  - (f) theses.
1. Any book borrowed from the Library shall be subject to recall if it is in demand or for other good cause.
  2. Books borrowed from the Medical and Biomedical Libraries may be kept for four weeks.
  3. In the other parts of the Library, the loan period varies according to the category of user. Library books may be kept:
    - (i) for four weeks by enrolled undergraduate and postgraduate taught students of the University, Recognised Teachers, Teaching Assistants, Associate Members and users covered by the SCONUL Access Scheme and the contract with the DHSSPS;
    - (ii) for twelve weeks by the University's research students, staff (academic, academic-related, clerical and technical, retired) honorary graduates and honorary lecturers. This provision also applies to specified AFBI staff and members of Senate and the governing bodies of the University Colleges while they are in office.

At the discretion of Library management, books may be issued to students for longer than the standard period to avoid them falling due during the vacations.

4. The number of books on loan at any one time should not exceed:
  - (i) ten for enrolled undergraduate students of the University (exclusive of short loan), Teaching Assistants, SCONUL Access borrowers, Open Learning students and Personal Associate Members;
  - (ii) fifteen for enrolled taught postgraduate students of the University (exclusive of short loan), Recognised Teachers, Associate Members who pay the professional subscription and users covered by the contract with the DHSSPS;
  - (iii) thirty for the University's research students, staff (academic, academic-related, clerical and technical, retired) honorary graduates and honorary lecturers. This provision also applies to specified AFBI staff and members of Senate and the governing bodies of the University Colleges while they are in office.

When a user reaches the specified maximum no more books may be borrowed until one or more books have been returned.

5. Books borrowed from the Library must be returned by the due date. A book will be overdue if kept beyond this date and will incur a fine. The level of fines will be agreed by the University Operating Board and made public via the Library web pages.
6. Loans may be renewed for a further five periods provided that the book is not in demand.
7. A borrower, on receiving notice that a book on loan to him/her is required by another user, must return that book to the Library by the date stipulated in the notice. A book will be deemed to be overdue if kept beyond this date, and will incur a fine at the agreed rate.
8. A book will be considered to be in demand if required by more than one user at any one time, and will be available for loan for one week only. If kept beyond this period it will entail a fine at the agreed rate.
9. Books with substantial waiting-lists may, at the discretion of the Director or nominee, be made available only on the conditions governing the use of restricted loan collections.
10. Books borrowed from the designated short loan collections must be returned no later than the time specified. A fine at the higher rate will be charged for each book kept beyond this time. No loan may be renewed..

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