Welcome to the JKM Library: Using our Tools and Resources

An Introduction for the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago
Spring Orientation: Wednesday, January 28, 2026
Matthew Frost, Library Services Coordinator and Acting Interim Director

Welcome to the JKM Library!

(which, not coincidentally, is the subject line of the email you should have received giving you your library access credentials)

Once upon a time, we relied on you to come to us. But ever since the pandemic started, we have shifted to delivery and digital.

That shift was locked in when the seminaries moved to their new homes, here in the shared campus at 5416 S Cornell, and JKM downsized and moved our offices and collections to a neighboring seminary campus in Hyde Park.

And because we are heavily invested in electronic resources, which are more integral to your courses than ever before, you need to know how to use your library systems!

I will drop a link to this presentation in the chat, and I recommend that you grab a copy, because important links are included on the slides throughout.

Your seminary is served by multiple systems:

- **The JKM Library**
  - Your primary library
  - Paid for and run by McCormick and LSTC
  - A proud member of the I-Share network

- **Our Partners in I-Share**
  - 94 academic libraries throughout Illinois
  - Including CTU's Bechtold Library on the 5th floor
  - Supported by CARLI at the University of Illinois

- **The University of Chicago Libraries**
  - Long-time partners with the Hyde Park seminaries
  - Expanded services contract for McCormick and LSTC since 2024

Today, your seminary is served by multiple library systems, working together in a variety of p artnerships.

The first is the JKM Library, which I represent. JKM is your institutional library. That means we are always the first place you should turn for resources.

JKM is paid for and run jointly by LSTC and McCormick, your neighbors on the 5th floor. These two seminaries have been together for 50 years, with JKM as their shared library.

But in 2013, JKM joined I-Share, which was and remains a very big deal. The University of Illinois, the #1 library school in the country, founded I-Share in the late 1970s, and it continues to have a long waiting list to get in.

So the second system is our partners in I-Share. I-Share is what we call a "union catalog," meaning that the 94 libraries in I-Share make their collections open to one another through a shared platform, so that everybody in the system can borrow from any library in the system as easily as from their own.

And finally, LSTC and McCormick also pay the University of Chicago for auxiliary library services, primarily access to their physical collections.

We had a much longer-term relationship with the University Libraries, negotiated by the Association of Chicago Theological Schools, but since the sale of our building to the

University in 2023, your seminary pays for additional services related to accessing their physical collections. We'll talk about those in a minute.

What does this mean?

- **The JKM Library**
  - 34,000 physical books and over 600,000 e-books
  - Databases, online academic journals, and other subscriptions

- **I-Share Libraries**
  - 15 million titles, over 38 million physical items (books and more!)
  - Requestable from JKM's catalog just like our books

- **The University of Chicago Libraries**
  - Over 2 million physical items (including 135,000 from JKM)
  - Paging service (request to Regenstein circulation desk)
  - "Scan and Deliver" service for PDFs of articles, chapters
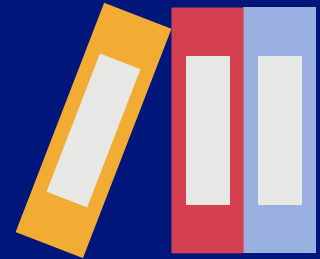
And now, the good Lutheran question: "What does this mean?"

Well, it means you have access to quite a lot of books!

From JKM, you have access to about 34,000 physical volumes, plus over 600,000 ebooks. We continue to expand our electronic collections to provide support for all areas of the seminary curriculum.

Now, if that 34,000 doesn't sound like a lot, this is where I-Share comes in, since across its 94 member libraries, JKM included, you have access to over 38 million volumes, representing around 15 million titles, just in physical books.

That means that any titles where only one or two schools have a copy, those copies are in the system, and if they're available at their home library, you can borrow them.

And in the case of more commonly-used titles, there may be many more copies in the system, available from various libraries.

This is great for supporting classes, but it's also nice when you want to keep a book longer. Just request another copy when the one you have comes due, and return the one you've been using.

Any books, DVDs, musical scores, any physical item you request from any library in I-Share,

will be delivered to JKM, checked out to you, and then placed on our hold table across from the LSTC front desk, just like any item you request from JKM.

The University Libraries are another story. You will have to go to them if you want to borrow books. However, in addition to simply having access to their over 2 million physical volumes, you can place requests to pick up books you want at their circulation desk, and you can also request scans of chapters or articles from their physical collections.I'll cover how you access those services in a minute.

Physical Books (and more!)

- **JKM and I-Share**
  - Requested items delivered to campus twice a week
  - Pick up and return on the 4th floor by the elevators (LSTC)

Electronic Resources

- **The JKM Library**
  - We are your only licensed provider
  - Accessible from our website and online catalog
  - Everything uses your OpenAthens login

- **Any other library (including UChicago)**
  - Guest access in-person only
  - Use their computers or wifi network

WIFI NETWORKS MATTER!

CTU_Main = guest at Bechtold Library

So all of those physical books you have access to from JKM and I-Share are available for you to request from our online catalog, which I will show you later on.

When you request an item, it will be delivered to us through ILDS on a Monday or a Wednesday, and usually processed at our offices and delivered to LSTC on a Tuesday or a Th ursday.

And again, the University Libraries are a separate system; anything you request through their online catalog you will have to go there to pick up, usually from Regenstein circulation. I'll say more about how you access them in a minute.

When it comes to electronic resources, copyright law is the controlling factor. Every library must license electronic resources for their own patrons, and we are not allowed to share.

So you can only get remote access to electronic resources, whether ebooks or databases, from JKM. As students, faculty, or staff of either seminary, you are affiliated with us, so we are your library.

There is one exception to the rule: libraries are allowed to provide access to their guests, not just their affiliated patrons. That still means no remote access from other libraries, but you can visit them in-person, and use their computers or wireless networks to access their resources while on site.

If you're here in Hyde Park, or near enough, that includes CTU's Bechtold Library, on the 5th floor of campus, across from McCormick. You can also access their resources through CTU's wifi while in the building.

But the real advantage comes from being able to visit the University of Chicago's Regenstein Library, and use their wifi or computers to access their subscriptions. (I guarantee you, anything you request from JKM that we don't have, that's my first stop.) Any articles from the last three years, which haven't yet reached our databases yet, they probably have a subscription to the journal, and you can just pop in and use it as a guest.

The same applies, for our remote students, to any college library near you. Visit them, use their wifi, see what subscriptions they have that we don't.

And I will also note that many colleges and universities have community borrower privileges, so if you live in the area, absolutely add their collections of books to your research abilities. When I lived in Madison, I spent so much time in the UW libraries, and it only cost me $40 per year. Community colleges are often cheaper.

Accessing the JKM Library

- **Online Access through OpenAthens**
  - Uses your seminary email address and a password
  - Search our catalog, request books, access databases, find articles
  - We deliver to campus, and ship books to I-Share libraries

Visiting a Partner Library in-person

- **I-Share Libraries** (map)
  - Contact JKM to make sure you're properly registered with us
  - Show seminary ID at partner library, get added as a JKM patron

- **ACTS Libraries** (list)
  - mostly in I-Share now; show seminary ID as a JKM patron
  - ACTS card needed for Garrett, Loyola, American Islamic College

On to one of our top questions: "How do I access the JKM Library?"

Physically, your access to JKM is limited to the holds table and book drop by the elevators across from the LSTC front desk on 4th floor. As I mentioned at the beginning, our offices and our book stacks are off-site, and we deliver!

But for that reason, we also no longer bother with physical library cards. Instead, your library account connects with our single-sign-on system, OpenAthens.

Your OpenAthens login will get you access to everything JKM has to offer. You will use it to request books through our online catalog, to access your library account, to renew books from JKM or any I-Share library, and to access our databases and find articles for your research. And you can use it from anywhere.

Your OpenAthens login uses your seminary email address by default, and we send you a random password and the link to reset it to something of your choosing. Look in your email for the subject line "Welcome to the JKM Library" to find that information, if you haven't alrea dy.

You may still want to use a physical library space! We wish we still had one, but our partner libraries are available to you.

There are 93 other I-Share libraries in Illinois, including CTU's Bechtold Library upstaairs,

and you can visit any of them that may be near you.

Before you do that, your first step should always be to check with us, because I-Share libraries will only recognize you in their systems if you're already in ours.

As long as you are already a JKM Library patron, you can then go to one of our partner I-Share libraries with your seminary ID, and ask them to look you up as a JKM Library patron.

Now, most of the members of the Association of Chicago Theological Schools, or ACTS, are already in I-Share. But for the three that aren't, in a string down the north shore from Garrett-Evangelical to Loyola to the American Islamic College, if you want to visit them you will need a physical, paper card from us as your ACTS library, saying that you belong to the association. I have those, I can drop one off for you on campus or in the mail; just email us and we'll get you set up.

Using your UChicago Privileges

- **Sign up for your CNetID online**
  - Need student ID number (like LSTC1234567) and date of birth
  - Create an alias and password (your CNetID login)
  - Set up email forwarding and 2-factor authentication

- **Get a Campus Card at the ID and Privileges Office**
  - Bring a valid state ID (like a drivers license)
  - The IPO staff will look you up as an LSTC member
  - If they don't find you, contact LSTC IT (ITHelp@lstc.edu)

- **Visit the Regenstein Library in-person**
  - The Campus Card taps to open the entry gates
  - Most religion materials are on 4th floor
  - Study areas on each floor with "stacks" in the back

As I mentioned earlier, LSTC pays extra for you to have library privileges at the University of Chicago.

This is a completely separate system from JKM and I-Share, and it has its own separate login and card system.

While you do not have remote access to UChicago's electronic resources, your access to their physical collections comes with a significant bonus: a CNetID.

This is their version of OpenAthens, and when you claim your CNetID, you will be set up with a library account and a login for accessing their systems. Your CNetID is also technically an email address of its own, but they don't expect you to check that, so you will tell them what email address you'd like it forwarded to. And you will set up 2-factor authentication with either the Duo Mobile app or text messaging, so have your cell phone ready.

For physical access, you're going to need to visit the ID and Privileges Office in the front of the Regenstein Library, at 1100 E 57th St here in Hyde Park. Bring a state ID, like a drivers license, and tell them to look you up as an LSTC student.

The IPO, assuming all goes according to plan, will give you a Campus Card that will give you access through the gates into Regenstein proper, where you can access anything they have.

You won't be able to get into any and every University Library with this, but Regenstein is

where the most things relevant to us live, particularly the 4th floor where the religion materials are. It is also where our staff liaison has her office.

Which brings me to:

To Whom Shall We Go?

JKM | Library

ihaveaquestion@jkmlibrary.org   **YOUR LIBRARY**

Stephanie Holding
Interim Director
JKM Library
(on leave)

Matthew Frost
Library Services
Coordinator
(Acting Director)

Sara Mercurio
Circulation and
Interlibrary Loan
Specialist

UChicago Library   PARTNER

Dr. Anne Knafl
Bibliographer for Religion
Philosophy & Jewish Studies

Paul Bechtold Library
AT CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL UNION   PARTNER

Aileen Mulchrone
Interim Director

Justin Glenn
Systems and Electronic Resources

To Whom Shall We Go?

While none of us has words of eternal life, we're all able to help you in one way or another with library questions and research needs.

So: once again, JKM is your institutional library, and your first stop. Our general email address is ihaveaquestion@jkmlibrary.org, and any mail to that address can be handled by all of the library staff.

And that means the three of us that you see here on top—though our director is currently on maternity leave, so really you're mostly going to get answers from me until April.

Stephanie Holding, our director, handles administration and cataloging.

Matthew Frost (that's me) handles reference questions, anything having to do with users and library privileges, and most questions about our databases and library usage. I am also our subject area expert, so I can help you with your research questions.

Sara Mercurio, our new circulation librarian, will be handling all of your book requests and at least some of your articles and scan requests.

You can also get help from our partner libraries.

As I mentioned on the previous slide, we have a liaison at the University of Chicago's Regenstein Library: Dr. Anne Knafl, Bibliographer for Religion, Philosophy, and Jewish Studies. That means that she is Regenstein's subject area expert on many things you're likely to want, but she can also link you with other people in intersecting fields.

Dr. Knafl's office is on the 4th floor, but they have just put all of the offices inside a locked hallway, so you're best off emailing her to arrange assistance. She can get you started with anything you need at Regenstein, including research questions and article access.

And upstairs on our own campus, you have access to CTU's Bechtold Library, one of our fellow I-Share libraries. While they also had to downsize when we all moved in together at 5416 S Cornell, Aileen and Justin maintain a very different collection of resources from JKM, especially when it comes to niche Catholic materials. And unlike JKM, they still have their periodicals, so you can read print journals and access back-issues in their stacks.

JKM Library Tools and Resources

Our Website
jkmlibrary.org

Our Catalog
Primo
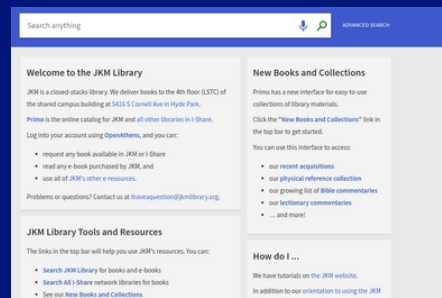
Article Search
EBSCO Databases

Article Search
JSTOR Database

So now that I've covered the who, what, and where, let's work on the how.

There are four main things we want you to be familiar with as a JKM Library patron. Get comfortable with these, and most other things you need will fall into place.

These four things are:

Our website, jkmlibrary.org;

Our catalog, Primo;

Our EBSCO databases; and

Our JSTOR database.

Now, today I'm probably going to skip the databases for time.

However, you've got links to them here, as well as on the following pages, and we have a tutorial for finding articles on the website, which I'm about to show you.

Our Website: jkmlibrary.org

Your first stop for library questions and links to library services!

Our website, jkmlibrary.org, is your first stop for library questions and links to library services.

(While I recognize that the seminaries have their own library pages, they are not maintained by JKM, and were in fact designed a few years ago when it was believed that JKM was going to die, rather than move.
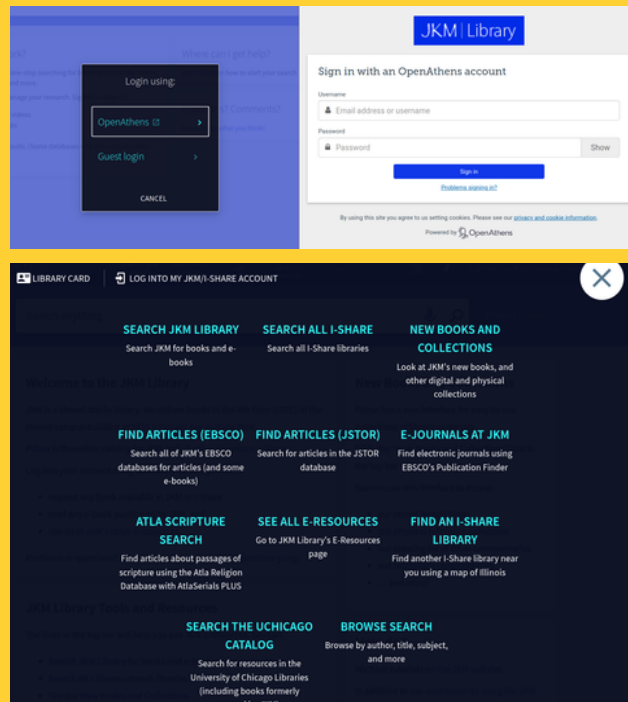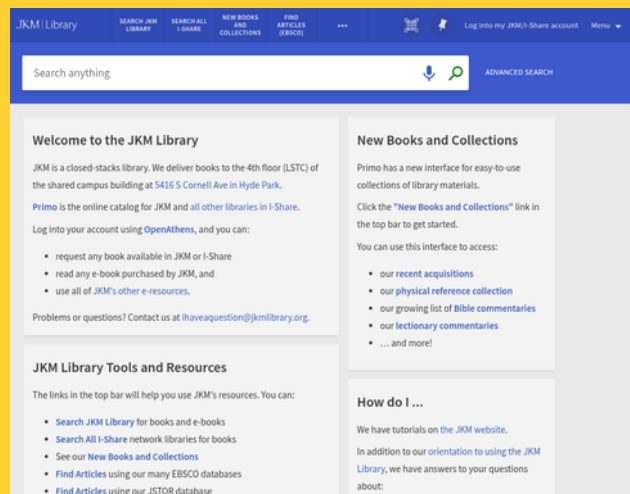
We lived!)

The two major things you should be coming to our website for are tutorials—especially down the left side in our "How do I ..." bar—and our electronic resources, and I will show you those.

[DEMO]

From our website, you can also access our catalog, using the link on the top right ...

Our Catalog: Primo

Where to go to find any books physical or electronic

… and our catalog also has many useful resources linked on it, in addition to being your primary means of accessing our physical and electronic books.

Our online catalog software is called Primo, and you can find this same software used at every I-Share library. So if you search CTU's Bechtold Library catalog, it will be a very similar interface.

Absolutely bookmark this link, any time you're looking for a book this is where you want to start. You can always access it from jkmlibrary.org, but you can also just go there directly.

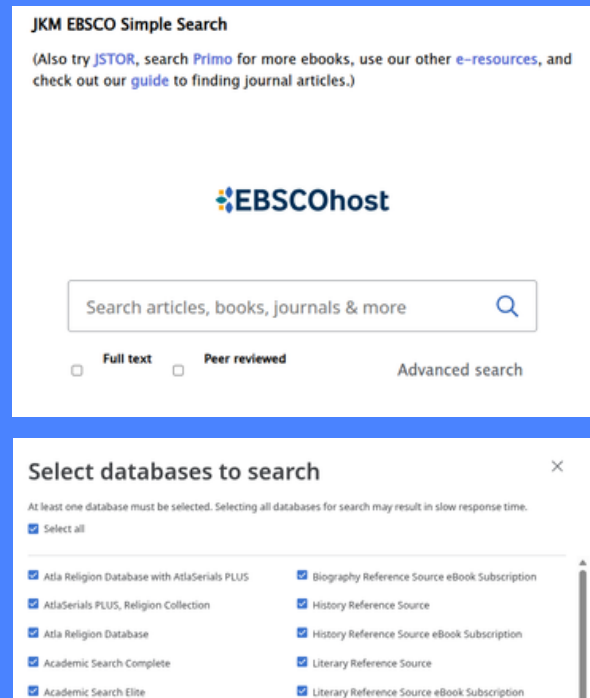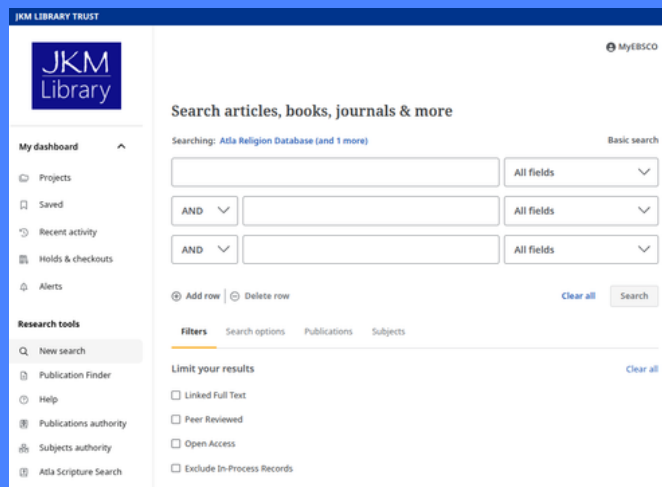And now I will show you how to use our catalog …

[DEMO]

When it comes to our electronic resources, I've shown you how to access them from our E-Resources page, but you can also find links to them in the top bar.

Two of those links take you to our next two slides: EBSCO and JSTOR for article search.

Our Databases: EBSCO
Article search plus many e-books for religion and other fields

Most of our databases come through EBSCO, which provides a unified interface for search.

Through both CARLI and the State of Illinois, JKM provides access to 79 databases, covering a range of references, articles, and ebooks.

You won't find all of our ebooks here; if you're primarily looking for ebooks, you want our catalog, because we also buy from other vendors, especially ProQuest.

However, when you search EBSCO you will also get ebook recommendations from our EBSCO purchases and subscriptions.

And you will also get references to things you cannot get in full text. This is on purpose! You have, as I have shown you, more resources than just our collections, and it is important when you're doing research that you see everything that's out there.

We have two ways to start your search, one simple and using a more restricted set of databases, and one using the advanced search of all databases. I will show you both.

[DEMO]

Our Databases: JSTOR

A smaller but important selection of full-text articles for research
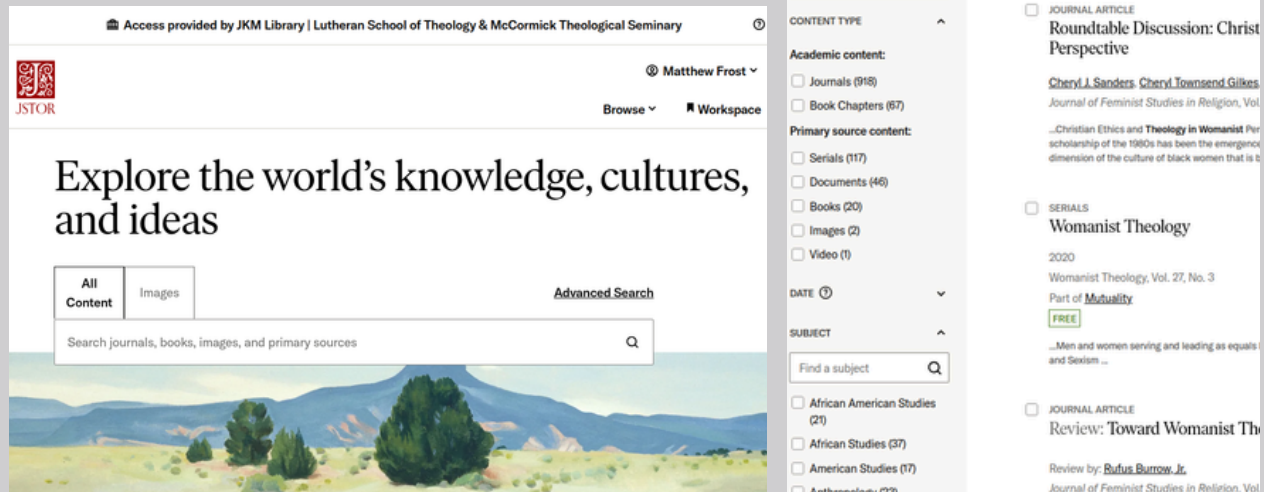
… and, finally, we have JSTOR, which is a much more prestigious name in databases, but from whom we have a much narrower offering.

(I remember when we first subscribed to them, it was a very good day to be a doctoral student.)

I always recommend you search both EBSCO and JSTOR. Sometimes they overlap, but the selection of full-text offerings we have from JSTOR fills in some real gaps in our EBSCO subscriptions.

Unlike our EBSCO subscriptions, we have not set JSTOR to show you things you can't get. You can change that, and the same rules apply: you will simply have to go looking for who has what we don't. But JSTOR doesn't have the same function EBSCO does of directly asking us to get it for you.

And, if you create a JSTOR account for yourself, you can get 100 free articles a month, meaning at least some of the things they do have in full text that we don't subscribe to.

So let me show you the basics of JSTOR.

[DEMO]

Thank you for using your library!

Follow our orientation tutorial anytime:

jkmlibrary.org/howto-use-jkm

And email us for anything you need at:

ihaveaquestion@jkmlibrary.org

And that's the end!

I will happily take questions, but again we also have tutorials on the website, and you can email us anytime at ihaveaquestion@jkmlibrary.org.