

Self-Guided Library Tour

Welcome to the Princeton Theological Seminary Library. This self-guided tour will acquaint you with the major public spaces in the new building (approximately 130,933 gross square feet).

For more information, please visit us online: <https://library.ptsem.edu>

Shelving Location Guide

Reference B–BR	First Floor balcony
Reference BS–Z	Lower Level
Reference 2, A–Z	Lower Level
A–BT587	Third Floor
BT590–E	Second Floor
F–Z	Lower Level
Periodicals (current issues, selected titles)	First Floor, North Wing (shelved by title)
Periodicals	Lower Level (shelved by call number)
Folios	Lower Level
Media	Lower Level
New Books	First Floor
Christian Education (Reigner)	Second Floor
Microforms	Second Floor

This self-guided tour begins in the lobby, assuming you have just walked into the library.

FIRST FLOOR

[Immediately inside the front door in the lobby, turn right and walk into the café.]

BRICK CAFÉ

The Brick Café features fresh brewed Small World coffee, lattes, iced coffee, frozen drinks, salads, sandwiches and other tasty items available for purchase, café style seating, and serves as an informal gathering spot for the PTS community, with nice windows looking out on Mercer Street.

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****Eco Note: The long table was fashioned out of trees felled from in front of the old Speer Library and the small tables are inlaid with marble from the walls of Speer Library.**

[Walk out of café and walk straight ahead, noting the following features.]

SIGNAGE Wall-mounted digital signage features campus events and scenes.

BOOK DROP There is a slot on the outside of the building to the left of the entrance for returning books when the library is closed. When the library is open, please return materials at the circulation desk.

RESTROOM Down the hall and to the right are restrooms and water fountains.

MEETING ROOM and DANIEL J. THERON ASSEMBLY ROOM

The Meeting Room and Daniel J. Theron Assembly Room, like many of the public rooms in the Library, can be reserved by members of the PTS community through the Master Calendar. These rooms will be used for meetings, Continuing Education events, and other occasions.

****Historical note:** The Theron Room is named for Daniel J. Theron, who was born in the Orange Free State, Union of South Africa. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Pretoria, where he also completed his basic theological degree "cum laude." He came to Princeton Seminary, where he earned his doctorate in New Testament and served as a Teaching Fellow, Instructor and Assistant Professor in New Testament from 1946 until 1958. He then began a second career in the field of investments, a career which prospered. Out of his earnings in this field he has established several endowments for church purposes, including scholarships for black African theological students and church workers at four theological seminaries in the Republic of South Africa. He also donated the funds for this room in the new library.

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[Walk back to the lobby, pass through the gates, noting the Service Desk on the right.]

CIRCULATION SERVICE DESK

The Circulation Service Desk is a primary service point for Library assistance in the building. This is where patrons apply for cards, check out books, and make general inquiries.

[Just beyond the Service desk, note the COPY CENTER and NEW BOOKS display area.]

[Walk around the Concourse, noting the following features as you pass them in a straight line across to the large REFERENCE sign and the glass doors on the Library Place side of the building, taking you out onto the Reference Balcony.]

CONCOURSE

Display cases in the “drum” and along the far wall feature exhibits; columns support computer terminals, for quick access to the library catalog

Low shelving features new books, atlases, newspapers, and ready reference materials

REFERENCE

Reference desk, Reference Librarian and Discovery & Web Services Librarian offices

[Walk through to glass doors to Reference Balcony.]

Reference tables and soft seating

****Eco Note:** As you stand on the Reference Balcony, look up and note the refurbished “disk style” lighting fixtures, which were salvaged from the Board Room in the old Speer Library building prior to demolition.

Reference Location Note

Reference B–BR, First Floor Balcony
Reference BS–Z & Reference 2, A–Z, Lower Level

The reference collection starts with “B” on far left side, circles around room, and overflows into the compact shelving downstairs. The collection retains the most frequently used reference material – that material that has been used as the reference collection during the last 2.5 years. Secondary reference, a collection of additional resources, is located on the compact shelving downstairs, just outside the Reading Room behind the main Reference Collection.

[Take the Reference stairs down into the main body of the Reference Reading Room.]

LOWER LEVEL

REFERENCE READING ROOM

The main body of the Reference Reading Room is a major study space in the new building. The shelving down here continues from the collection upstairs.

[Exit through the glass doors. Glance to the right and note the computer workstations. Glance straight ahead and note the vast compact shelving on this floor.]

COMPUTER WORKSTATIONS Patrons with a PTS network ID can use the workstations on these desks, which feature both the Mac and PC operating systems. Note that the 2nd and 3rd floor features workstations in the same area. There are printers on every floor.

COMPACT SHELVING

Lower Level Compact Shelving Location Note

The compact shelving on the Lower Level houses several important resources:

- Circulating Collection F–Z
- Reference 2, A–Z (secondary reference collection)
- Periodicals (shelved by call number)*
- Folios (all folios: reference, periodical, circulating)
- Media

*Current issues of a large selection of journal titles are located on the periodical

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display shelves on the first floor of the North Wing, arranged by title. See <http://ptsem.libguides.com/periodicalreadingroom>

Why use compact shelving? *The blue hand-crank compact shelving you see throughout the building was selected to make maximum use of space, which enables the library to keep its entire collection on-site—a major benefit to researchers. Be sure to “lock” each row on the hand-crank mechanism before entering a row.*

[Take a left and walk around the compact shelving until you reach the Iain R. Torrance Atrium. Continue to walk through the Atrium to the elevator visible on the far side of the Atrium.]

IAIN R. TORRANCE ATRIUM

The Seminary uses the Iain R. Torrance Atrium for a variety of library and other events throughout the year. Dr. Iain Torrance was Princeton Theological Seminary President from 2004-2012.

Art note: Note the sculpture featured in the Iain R. Torrance Atrium. The title of the stainless steel, aluminum, neon and oil paint work is "Unending Love" and it was created by NY-based Korean artist Hyong Nam Ahn. Its presence here was made possible through the generosity of Seminary Trustee Jinsoo Kim and Mrs. Kim.

[Walk north across the Iain R. Torrance Atrium to the Digital Media Lab, visible through a glass wall. You are now in the North Wing of the building.]

DIGITAL MEDIA LAB

The Digital Media Lab is a self-service facility where currently registered Princeton Seminary students, full-time faculty and staff can experiment, experience and employ the many uses of new media in theological education.

[Also in the North Wing of the building, near the Digital Media Lab, is the Theodore Sedgwick Wright Room.]

THEODORE SEDGWICK WRIGHT ROOM

The Theodore Sedgwick Wright Room celebrates the life and ministry of Theodore Sedgwick Wright, African American abolitionist and first African American graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary, 1828.

[Return to the atrium, turn left towards the staircase, and take the elevator or the stairs up to the 3rd floor.]

THIRD FLOOR

[As you exit the elevator/stairs on the third floor, turn to your immediate right.]

SEMINAR ROOMS/SMART CLASSROOMS

There are four seminar room/"smart" classrooms in the building, one on each floor in this area. These rooms feature document projectors, Smart Boards, and other tools, and are reserved through the Registrar.

[Turn back towards the elevator, note the iPad posted on the wall.]

WALL-MOUNTED iPADS

Throughout the building and amongst the stacks, you will note mounted iPads linked to the library's catalog and other resources, allowing for quick browsing while you are in the stacks.

[Turn left and proceed down the hall, taking an immediate left.]

HALLWAY

This hallway (and the parallel hallways on all floors) is home to two important spaces in the building: the restrooms and the official "Areas of Refuge" are located here. Areas of refuge are safe places to wait for emergency personnel if you are unable to exit the building during an emergency.

[Turn around and continue straight down the hallway, headed towards the front of the building. As the hallway ends, take a left into the Women in Ministry Room.]

WOMEN IN MINISTRY ROOM

The Women in Ministry Room honors women associated with Princeton Theological Seminary in varied capacities as alumnae, faculty, administrators, trustees.

****Eco Note: The small tables have marble inserts recycled from wall tiles from the Speer library building.**

[Exiting the area the way you entered, you will proceed in a straight line down the hallway, heading east. As you progress through the hallway, you will pass several spaces that are passkey protected and not publicly accessible, including the FACULTY ROOM and the PH.D. SUITE. You will also note some Multipurpose Rooms along this wall.]

MULTIPURPOSE ROOMS

These small group meeting rooms are available for public use.

[At the end of the hallway, turn right, walk past the stacks and carrels, and across the bridge to the North Wing of the library.]

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[Turn left as you leave the bridge and then immediately turn right. Straight ahead is the Center for Barth Studies.]

CENTER FOR BARTH STUDIES

The Center for Barth Studies sponsors conferences, research opportunities, discussion groups, and publications related to the works of theologian Karl Barth (1886-1968).

[As you exit the Center for Barth Studies, walk straight ahead and take the stairs (before you reach the bridge) down to the 2nd floor.]

SECOND FLOOR

[As you exit the stairwell, continue straight head to the William H. Scheide Special Collections & Archives Suite]

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Special Collections at Princeton Theological Seminary houses more than 75,000 printed works and over 5,175 linear feet of archival and manuscript material. Major collections include the Seminary archives, rare books and pamphlets, personal papers, records of organizations, research collections, and non-textual materials related to the history of the Presbyterian and Reformed traditions and ecumenical Christianity.

[As you leave Special Collections, continue straight ahead and across the bridge over the atrium. The Alumni Room is directly in front of you.]

ALUMNI ROOM

The Alumni Room is, for most of the year, an open study space available to alums as well as the rest of the Seminary community. Occasional alumni/ae events or meetings may take place in this room throughout the year.

[Exiting the Alumni Room, turn right and walk ahead about 15 feet before turning right again into the South Gallery.]

SOUTH GALLERY

The South Gallery is the largest open public space in the building, offering a variety of desks and soft seating options, two small group meeting rooms, and a seminar room in the center that is used for classes. The South Gallery offers a spectacular view across Mercer Street to the Seminary campus and ample window seating, perfect for reading and reflection.

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[Walk through the South Gallery heading to the end of the building. The room on the end of the South Gallery is the Korean Room.]

KOREAN ROOM This room is available for open study and reading. There may be times throughout the year when events like readings may be scheduled here.

**Historical note: The Presbyterians have a long history in mission to Korea and the Presbyterian tradition in Korea is a very strong one. This room is dedicated to the longstanding relationship between our Seminary and the Christians of Korea. In the locked bookcases on the left is a portion of the Moffett Collection on Christianity in Korea. Samuel A. Moffett was one of the pioneer Christian missionaries to Korea and his son and daughter-in-law, Samuel H. and Eileen Moffett, spent most of their career working in Korea before Samuel H. Moffett (1916-2015) came here to teach missions and ecumenics at Princeton Seminary.

[Walk through the Korean Room and straight down the hallway along the wall. You will pass the microform collection and the equipment available for reading/printing items in that collection, as well as more compact shelving where the Reigner Collection is shelved.]

REIGNER COLLECTION (Christian Education)

The Charles G. Reigner Collection consists of materials for the practice and understanding of the educational ministry of the Church and is designed to provide a wide and current range of Christian formation resources.

NOTE: Vacation Bible School and current curricula, as well as the Cataloging and Christian Education Librarian are located downstairs in Room 1123 (First Floor near the North Wing elevator).

[As you come to the end of the hall, turn left towards the North Gallery. As you enter the open gallery area, the hallway to your right leads to restrooms, water fountains, and the North Wing elevator.]

FIRST FLOOR

[Take the North Wing elevator (or the stairs at the end of the hallway) down to the first floor and you will find Room 1123 nearby, across from the elevator.]

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[As you walk south towards the front of the building, in the area to your right, you will see journals arranged on display cases.]

PERIODICAL READING ROOM

Current issues of a large selection of journal titles are located on the periodical display shelves on the first floor of the North Wing, accompanied by tables and soft seating. They are arranged by title for ease of browsing.

[Parallel to and just north of the Periodical Reading Room is the Heritage Room.]

HERITAGE ROOM

The Heritage Room honors the early faculty and Presidents of Princeton Theological Seminary.

[Cross the bridge through the Iain R. Torrance Atrium to return to the Concourse.]

Thank you for visiting the Princeton Theological Seminary Library. We hope to see you again soon!