

Information Systems (Reynolda Campus)

Information Systems supports University instruction, research, and administrative needs through computing and telecommunications services. The campus computer network offers wired and wireless high-speed connectivity from all campus buildings.

All students on the Reynolda Campus are given a network login ID; the login ID is maintained as long as the student is enrolled. This account provides students with access to networked computer resources such as electronic mail, client-server software packages, various courseware applications, and administrative services. During the 2014-2015 academic year, first year and third year undergraduate students received a new ThinkPad computer as part of their tuition. ThinkPad model specifications can be found on the Information Systems web site at help.wfu.edu. Standard software on the ThinkPad includes Windows 7, Microsoft Office, digital media tools, and Mozilla Firefox. The ThinkPad also has a variety of research, analytical, and development tools, as well as the latest version of EndPoint Protection AntiVirus software. Maintenance and support for the ThinkPad computers is provided on campus through The Bridge, a service center, located on the main floor of the Z. Smith Reynolds Library. Loaner computers are available for students as needed.

Information Systems maintains an extensive array of online resources that support University admissions, student registration, grade processing, payroll administration, finance and accounting services, and many other administrative and academic applications. In addition, the Wake Forest Information Network (WIN) provides the University community with features like faculty, staff, student and alumni directories; online class registration; electronic access to view payroll and tax information; and vehicle registration.

Students also have access to computing resources outside the University. The University is a member of the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), located at the University of Michigan. Membership in ICPSR provides faculty and students with access to a large library of data files, including public opinion surveys, cross-cultural data, financial data, and complete census data. The University is also a member of EDUCAUSE, a national consortium of colleges and universities concerned with computing issues.

The University's computing resources serve both academic and business needs. Wake Forest's network infrastructure includes a ten gigabit per second Ethernet backbone, a mixture of 100 Megabit and 1 Gigabit per second switched connectivity to the desktop, and pervasive wireless connectivity in all campus buildings. LINUX and Windows-based servers provide for business computing needs and services. A mix of LINUX systems and Windows-based systems provide for messaging, systems management, Internet, intranet, courseware, various research needs, and file and print services. A LINUX supercomputing cluster provides supercomputing services for math, computer science, physics, and other scientific research applications. These systems are available to students, faculty, and staff 24 hours a day through the Wake Forest University network or over the Internet. All connections are protected by VPN and firewalls.

Programming languages available on the various academic computing systems include C, C++, Java, Perl, Tcl/Tk, Fortran 77 and Objective C for iPad/iTouch programming. Students are exposed to a variety of operating systems through virtualization. SPSS, a statistical package used for data analysis, forecasting, and financial modeling, Maple and Matlab, an interactive environment for algorithm development, data visualization, and data analysis, are available on the ThinkPad. Using ThinkPads, students have access to a large variety of instructional, classroom, and research resources through the campus network including the online catalog, databases, and electronic journals provided by the Z. Smith Reynolds Library. Many departments on campus have their own computing resources in addition to those available through the Information Systems Department. The Digital Media Lab, located on the main floor of the Z. Smith Reynolds Library, offers additional technology resources.

In addition to the tools provided by the Wake Forest standard notebook load, Math students have access to a full suite of tools for class, project and research that aid them in completing their degree. These tools include MatLab, Maple, R, CoCoa, and a full suite of GNU compiler tools. These tools are located on a Red Hat server made available to only the Math Department and those working in conjunction with them.

Through the use of operating system virtualization, the Computer Science Department is able to offer a unique set of software tools that allow students to experience the nuances of various operating systems. Depending on the class, students may find themselves working on one of the many varieties of UNIX that are available in today's marketplace. These may include Ubuntu, Debian and Red Hat Linux as well as Oracle Solaris 11. The Wake Forest Microsoft Windows standard load comes on the students' notebooks, and various classes are taught on the Windows platform as well as MAC OS X. Students also have access to various mobile platforms including the iPad, iPhone and Android platform. In addition students have access to 16 GPU servers (Graphics Processing Units) utilized in classes teaching CUDA stream programming.

Students and faculty have access to the Wake Forest DEAC Cluster, a high performance Linux cluster with 252 nodes with 2500+ processor cores with 19TB of RAM, limited Infiniband connectivity, and 80TB of storage. The Wake Forest DEAC cluster currently offers the computational research community a wide variety of commercial scientific software as well as open source middleware necessary to effectively and efficiently utilize the high performance computing cluster. Many campus wide licensed software packages available on the Wake Forest issued laptops are available on the cluster as well. Currently, researchers on the cluster have dedicated access to: any Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6 provided software; Fortran 77 and Fortran 90 compilers from Intel, a variety of MPI implementations (Open MPI, MPICH2 from Argonne National Lab, MVAPICH2 from Ohio State University, and commercial software packages such as Matlab R2014a, Maple17, Mathematica10 and ITT IDL.

Information Systems offers telephone and cable television services to the students, faculty, and staff of Wake Forest University. All residence hall rooms are equipped with telephone jacks and cable TV connections. Local dial service for the campus and Winston-Salem area is provided upon request at no additional charge. Cable television, while providing a recreational outlet, plays an important role by providing access to campus information and educational offerings. Cable channel 6 is student-run

WAKE-TV which features various student programs. Information Systems also offers 142 channels of CATV service to include 68 select HDTV channels and 44 music channels to students in residence halls.

Information Systems provides assistance online at help.wfu.edu, by telephone at 336-758-HELP (4357) and supports walk-in customers at The Bridge located on the main floor of the Z. Smith Reynolds Library. The Bridge provides assistance with information technology services including multimedia, filming, computer repair, and equipment loans and purchases. The Bridge is a partnership of the Z. Smith Reynolds Library and Information Systems. Hours of operation are posted online at help.wfu.edu/hours. Students have 24-hour access to online support resources at help.wfu.edu.

More than 50 students are involved in Information Systems student technology programs. Students work in a number of settings that include providing direct support for students, faculty, and staff.

Libraries

The libraries of Wake Forest University support instruction and research at the undergraduate level and in the disciplines awarding graduate degrees. The libraries of the University hold membership in the American Library Association and in the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries. They rank among the top libraries in the Southeast in expenditures per student.

The Wake Forest University libraries include the Z. Smith Reynolds Library, which is located on the Reynolda Campus and supports the undergraduate College, the School of Business, the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, and the Divinity School. The Professional Center Library, in the Worrell Professional Center on the Reynolda Campus, serves the Law School. The Coy C. Carpenter Library serves the Wake Forest School of Medicine and is located on the Bowman Gray Campus.

The three library collections total over 2.5 million titles, including more than 50,000 electronic journals as well as e-books and streaming media. The three libraries share an online catalog, which also provides access to electronic resources, journals and databases, all accessible via the campus network and the Internet. The Z. Smith Reynolds Library and the Professional Center Library are selective U.S. Federal Depository libraries. The Z. Smith Reynolds Library is also a member of the HathiTrust Digital Library. In winning the Excellence in Academic Libraries Award from the Association of College and Research Libraries in 2011, the Z. Smith Reynolds Library was recognized for its strong institutional focus and values.

Special Collections & Archives in the Z. Smith Reynolds Library includes church records, manuscripts, periodicals, photographs, rare books, and university records. Rare Books emphasize American and British authors of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries such as Mark Twain, Gertrude Stein, William Butler Yeats, T.S. Eliot, and publications of the Hogarth Press. Manuscripts include the archives of the Irish Dolmen Press, papers of WFU alumnus Harold Hayes, editor of *Esquire* magazine in the 1960s–1970s, and Maya Angelou’s works for theater, television and screen. The Ethel Taylor Crittenden Baptist Historical Collection contains significant historical materials relating to North Carolina Baptists, as well as the personal papers of prominent ministers, educators, and government officials with ties to Wake Forest College/University. The University Archives collects documentation of the student experience, departmental records, and the papers of faculty and alumni.

The Z. Smith Reynolds Library provides comprehensive reference and research services including assistance with directed and independent research and online searching, discipline-related library instruction, general library orientation, tours, and a 1.5-credit elective course entitled “Accessing Information in the 21st Century.”

Through interlibrary loan service, students, faculty and staff may obtain materials from other libraries at no charge. In addition, Wake Forest University faculty members have borrowing privileges and on-site access to the collections of some of the most important research libraries in North America. The Z. Smith Reynolds Library provides access to a number of digital current awareness tools to help faculty stay up-to-date in their fields of interest. Photocopy services and campus delivery of books, media, and ILL materials are provided to faculty as well. Faculty may place course materials and readings on reserve, with electronic reserve options available. Faculty participate in collection development by recommending purchases through library liaisons, faculty library representatives, and academic department chairs. Faculty members, along with students, serve on the Library Planning Committee. Library services specifically tailored for faculty are outlined at <http://zsr.wfu.edu/faculty.html>.

Facilities in the Z. Smith Reynolds Library include “The Bridge,” a collaborative service between Information Systems and the library. Faculty, students and staff can bring their university issued laptops for repair. The space also offers a multimedia lab and mini video studio. The library has ten group study rooms that are equipped with SmartBoard technology. These rooms can be booked online at zsr.wfu.edu/studyrooms. In addition, 90 locking study carrels located throughout the Reynolds stacks may be reserved by graduate students and faculty.

The library is open continuously during the fall and spring semesters 24 hours a day from Sunday through Thursday. When the library is not on its 24 hour schedule, two 24 hour study rooms are available located near the entrance to the library and may be accessed by keycard when the library is closed. The study room on one side houses a Starbucks. A full description of the Z. Smith Reynolds Library resources and services is found at <http://zsr.wfu.edu>.