

Libraries and AI Technology



EXPANDING ACCESS AND EMPOWERING DISCOVERY



Information Access and Expert Guidance: Academic Libraries on the Forefront

When students and lifelong learners first encounter AI tools, they need someone who can break down how to use this technology. At OSU, academic library faculty have developed AI literacy programming that meets people where they are. From interactive workshops to online guides, the library is teaching community members how to read output, write effective prompts, and recognize each tool's limits. Students leave workshops with not only a better grasp on AI usage, but also a new appreciation

for creative problem-solving. Librarians have always been information navigators, connecting Oklahomans with reliable resources.

With continued support and teamwork between libraries of all kinds, these information experts will responsibly broaden digital horizons for their communities, uplifting the workforce and innovators of tomorrow.

Sparkling Digital Literacy in the Next Generation

In libraries across the state, highly trained information experts create thriving learning environments for all ages. When a high school librarian kicked off an AI student bootcamp, she used this technology as a teaching tool to help students navigate online resources critically while building technology skills vital to career and education opportunities. **These spaces ensure that the next generation of leaders has the information needed to use AI mindfully, uplift our communities, and meet life goals in this Digital Era.**



Artificial Intelligence in Administration: Boosting Efficiency and Impact

When Pioneer Library System switched to a new events calendar, staff used AI to tackle tech issues, cut down on administrative tasks, and maintain public access during the transition. These resources helped a librarian troubleshoot problems with AI as a coding partner and create an app that automates calendar entries, maximizing hours of employee time. By pairing staff expertise with AI tools, Pioneer reduced downtime, automated repetitive tasks, and expanded capacity system-wide. **For libraries, AI is not experimental—it's a practical tool that empowers staff to manage complex systems while saving time to focus on meeting local needs and connecting with customers.**



Taking Research to a Whole New Level at University Libraries

The OU Digital Scholarship and Data Services team is expanding AI access—creating a space where anyone on campus can try out AI tools for research, teaching, or creative projects. While best known for their coding platform Jupyter, the team also offers open-source AI models, making it possible to explore anything from high-level research tools to a simple chat interface. To improve accessibility, OU libraries will host eight hands-on workshops this fall and also install library workstations. **With AI tools**

designed to compliment the hard work done through research, library staff are making it possible to tackle projects at a scale and speed that was once unimaginable in a single semester.

Librarians Teaching Media Literacy and Critical Thinking Skills

At Longfellow Middle School, the librarian plays a vital role in helping students prepare for a technology-driven world. She partners with teachers to navigate AI in meaningful, age-appropriate ways. Sixth-grade students, for example, learn how technology shapes society; eighth-graders analyze AI's influence on research and information accuracy. In computer applications, they learn how AI is built. **By co-teaching in every subject, the librarian provides trusted guidance and supervision, working with students to foster critical-thinking skills along with readiness for high school, the workforce, and continued learning.**

Streamlining Customer Intake and Administration

By using AI to record handwritten library card applications and save time on other routine tasks, Southeast Oklahoma Library System employees make the most of working hours. This frees up staff to focus on the system's broader goal: tailored services connecting communities with vital programs, resources, and so much more.

With a public library in every county providing computers and highspeed internet, it is clear that the backbone of technology access can be found in libraries hard at work investing in local communities and the highest quality of service.



Empowering Educators to Meet Learning Needs

As early adopters of AI technology, K-12 libraries help educators use digital tools safely and effectively. At Choctaw Middle School, the librarian connects teachers with reliable resources and provides guidance on how to use them. With AI support, a special education teacher transformed lesson planning- tailoring activities to individual student needs and inspiring colleagues to explore new approaches to maximize student learning. **School libraries have become trusted centers of digital literacy, where Oklahoma educators can build skills and strengthen their curriculum.**

LIBRARIES CONNECT OKLAHOMA WITH DIGITAL RESOURCES



Trusted Digital Navigators

Libraries teach meta-literacy skills, from one-on-one customer interactions to planned programs and courses.



Statewide Access to Learning Communities

From college campuses to rural communities, libraries are hubs for connectivity and technology.



Libraries Leverage AI

Oklahoma libraries are leveraging AI tools to save time and focus on community connection.

Images courtesy of Pioneer Library System, Southeast Oklahoma Library System, Choctaw Middle School, OSU, and OU