Library guide
bcu-lausanne.ch
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Six sites, one library

Three sites for

English-speaking users

Experienced researchers, keen students, enthusiastic readers, committed teachers, music and film fans, studious secondary-school pupils, culture vultures and heritage lovers: the Bibliothèque cantonale et universitaire de Lausanne (BCUL) is your library.

BCUL has six sites in Lausanne to meet your different needs and expectations. Three of them (Unithèque, Internef and Riponne) aim to meet the needs of English-speaking users in particular, and are explained in detail in this brochure. While the Unithèque and Internef sites are academic libraries and contribute directly to the dynamism that defines the University of Lausanne (UNIL), the Riponne site plays a key role in the city’s cultural life, in the heart of the Palais de Rumine. The other three sites – HEP Vaud, Renens and Provence – are aimed at future teachers and secondary-school pupils.

BCU Lausanne gives you access to a wide range of services, from loans of printed, audio and video materials to the local and international press, as well as digital, scientific and leisure resources.

Each site has its own reading rooms, where you can study and familiarise yourself with the library’s new acquisitions. BCU Lausanne is not only a place of learning, but also a fantastic way to meet other people and share ideas.
Register, manage your user account and access the collections on site

Register

Anyone aged 14 or over can register with BCU Lausanne to borrow materials free of charge. Your library card also gives access to Renouvaud, the network of libraries in Vaud canton.

Do you have a Campus Card? Just ask at the library desk to validate your account.

No membership card yet? Complete the online pre-registration form on the BCUL website. To validate your registration and get your library card, just ask at the desk with a Swiss identity card or residence permit, HEP Vaud or Gymnases de Renens and Provence student card. Anyone with an F or N permit is entitled to register.

If you already have a BiblioPass card, just ask at the desk to have it validated.

Full details of our registration conditions are available at https://tinyurl.com/BCULRegistration.

Manage your library account

From “Mon compte” [my account] page on bcu-lausanne.ch or sp.renouvaud.ch, you can check when your loans are due, manage items you have reserved or requested, renew your current loans, update your personal information and change your password.

All of this can also be done at the loan desk.

Access the collections on site

Just want to check something occasionally? You are welcome to view the open shelves collections without any formal procedures or request a day pass to access items kept in the stacks, in the Rare Books Collections or the Manuscripts Department.
Borrow material

Number of items you can borrow
- 30 items at a time
- + 10 e-books (eLectures)

Loan period
variable depending on the type of items and their location
- 28 days for most items: books, CDs, musical scores, language-learning materials, e-readers, robots Thymio
- 14 days for magazines held at Riponne site (except the latest issue and legal deposit copies: reference only)
- 14 days for DVDs (Riponne, HEP Vaud, Provence and Renens sites) and DVD documentaries (Unithèque site, except for Cinespace)
- 4 days for DVDs (Unithèque site, Cinespace)
- 7 days for open shelves periodicals at Unithèque site

Some collections (legal deposit copies, very old, rare or reference works) are not available for borrowing. These can only be used in the library.

Borrowing an item from the open shelves
Just take the item from the open shelves and borrow it at the desk or self-check machine at the entrance to the library.

from the stacks or another location
Log in and use the “Request” function in the Renouvaud catalogue, then choose the location where you would like to pick up the item.

Requests for transfers between Internef and Unithèque sites are not accepted, given the proximity of the two sites.

Teaching packs, e-readers and robots Thymio can only be borrowed from the site where they are kept.
### How long it takes to get an item
Delivery times vary between sites, depending on the item’s original location. Full details about delivery times can be found on our website [bcu-lausanne.ch](http://bcu-lausanne.ch), English version > Registration > Borrow.

We will send you an e-mail once the item is available for pick-up. Items are reserved for seven working days.

### Returning items
You can return your items to the loan desk at any BCU Lausanne site, or leave them in the returnboxes available at Unithèque, Internef and Riponne sites, or at the returns terminal at HEP Vaud site.

### Renewals
Items can be renewed for a maximum of three times the length of the original loan period. Loans can be renewed unless the items are reserved by another user.

### Reservations
You can reserve an item that is on loan. We will notify you by e-mail or post when the item is available.

### Interlibrary loans
Items that BCUL does not have in its collections can be ordered from other libraries. A fee is charged for this service.

### Remote lending
You can order printed materials and have them sent to your home address for CHF 13.00 per item.

Is it difficult for you to travel? Have items delivered to your home free of charge through the “Livres à vous” [Books to you] service. Call +41 21 316 78 57 or write to [pretriponne@bcu.unil.ch](mailto:pretriponne@bcu.unil.ch) for more information.

### Fines
A fine of CHF 0.20 is charged per item for each working day, starting on the first day the item is overdue.

### Damage/loss
Any costs incurred as a result of damage or loss of an item, including administrative expenses, will be payable by the user in full.
Renouvaud

Renouvaud is both the network of Vaud libraries and its catalogue and search tool. Two specially designed interfaces are available to help you with your research: Sciences et Patrimoines and Ecoles et Lecture publique.

Sciences et Patrimoines

Sciences et Patrimoines includes BCU Lausanne, the CHUV and University of Lausanne libraries, the Vaud Cantonal Archives, the City of Lausanne Archives, libraries in higher-education institutions (HES) and vocational training colleges in Vaud canton, cantonal museum libraries, etc.

> sp.renouvaud.ch

Finding materials

The search tool gives you access to millions of documentary resources, with the ability to refine your search by type of material, library, language, subject, date, etc.

By default, the system searches both physical and digital resources. You can limit your search to physical resources (printed and multimedia items) or to digital collections, or extend it to the entire Renouvaud network.
In Renouvaud you will find

- Books (printed and digital)
- Journals (printed and digital)
- Newspapers and magazines
- Articles and book chapters
- Videos, audio materials, musical scores, geographical maps, etc.

To look for more items or find particular materials such as press articles, academic articles or encyclopaedias, you can also search the specialised databases available from the home page of the bcu-lausanne.ch website, and from the pages dedicated to particular subjects.

Can’t find what you are looking for?

Talk to the librarians at one of the desks or ask your question online using the form bcu-lausanne.ch/contact.

Do you think there is something missing from the BCUL collections?

Suggest an item to purchase using the form bcu-lausanne.ch/contact.
Digital BCUL

Licenced resources
A vast academic corpus (journals, digital books and databases) can be accessed on-site, at the computer work stations, and remotely for people who have registered with the UNIL-CHUV and HEP Vaud networks. Numerous resources have been indexed and are accessible via the Renouvaud catalogue.

eLectures
More than 10,000 e-books in French and English can be borrowed online. They cover a huge range of interests, from literature to crime fiction, biography, human and social sciences, history, etc. To borrow an e-book, log into the platform https://tinyurl.com/electures-ch-en using your library card number (ID, number beneath the barcode) and BCUL password (Sciences et Patrimoines interface).

Open-access resources
The resources below are freely accessible without logging in.

- French-speaking Switzerland press archives: scriptorium.bcu-lausanne.ch
- Documentation vaudoise (databases of musicians, writers and publishers from Vaud, books from the 16th to the 18th century, multimedia items on the heritage of Vaud, etc.)
- 100,000 digitised old books listed in Renouvaud
- Manuscripts [e-codices.ch/en]
- Free academic resources indicated by the symbol 📘

More information on the website bcu-lausanne.ch, “BCUL numérique” [digital BCUL] tab
Read the press

From daily and weekly newspapers to monthly periodicals, BCUL offers you the latest issues from a wide range of Swiss and international press publications. Back issues can be requested via the Renouvaud search tool.

The sunny Pierre Viret room at Riponne gives you access to a vast range of news publications and magazines on history, geography, art, literature, music and cinema, along with many local publications about Vaud canton. Various newspapers and magazines are also available at the Unithèque, Internef and HEP Vaud sites.

You also have online access to 6,000 newspapers from 100 countries and some archive material from the French-speaking and international press via the PressReader and Europresse platforms.

Did you know?

Millions of pages can be viewed free of charge on Scriptorium, which gives you access to the archives of Vaud press publications such as 24 Heures, Le Matin, l’Hebdo, l’Illustré, etc., but also publications from the 18th century onwards, such as Le véritable Messager boiteux de Berne et Vevey.
Located at the heart of the university campus, BCUL Unithèque offers an impressive collection of academic and heritage-related items.

Specialised in human and social sciences, its collections provide access to knowledge and the results of scientific research for members of the University of Lausanne community and anyone interested in those fields.
University collections

BCUL Unithèque offers the documentary resources needed to support university studies. These range from textbooks to specialised articles, via historical and textual resources, critical studies, reference and methodological works, bibliographies and films.

Twenty-six collections are available to you, rooted in the main teaching and research areas of the Faculties of Arts, Social and Political Sciences, Theology and Religious Sciences, Geosciences, Medicine and Biology at the University of Lausanne. The human and social sciences and biology area also include a basic collection of works on medicine and exact sciences.

Anthropology
Ancient history
Art
Biology
Cinema
Geography
History
Classical languages and literature (Ancient Greek and Latin)
Modern languages and literature (German, English, Spanish, French, Italian)

Linguistics
Comparative literature
Oriental studies
Philosophy
Psychology
Political science
Educational science
Religious science
Sports science
Slavic studies
Sociology

The BCUL Internef, la Bibliothèque universitaire de médecine – CHUV [the University Medical Library] and la Bibliothèque des sciences de la Terre – Géopolis [the Earth Sciences Library] are specialised in fields of study that are not represented at the Unithèque site.

Did you know?

A project to extend Unithèque is currently underway. Among other things, the new building will offer numerous new work spaces.

Anthropology
Ancient history
Art
Biology
Cinema
Geography
History
Classical languages and literature (Ancient Greek and Latin)
Modern languages and literature (German, English, Spanish, French, Italian)

Linguistics
Comparative literature
Oriental studies
Philosophy
Psychology
Political science
Educational science
Religious science
Sports science
Slavic studies
Sociology

The BCUL Internef, la Bibliothèque universitaire de médecine – CHUV [the University Medical Library] and la Bibliothèque des sciences de la Terre – Géopolis [the Earth Sciences Library] are specialised in fields of study that are not represented at the Unithèque site.
Oriental studies

BCUL Unithèque offers a collection unique in French-speaking Switzerland: oriental languages and civilisations. Its greatest strengths are the religions and literature of South Asia. The collection includes original versions of primary sources, in Sanskrit, Pali, Braj Bhasha, Hindi and Urdu (all taught at UNIL) and Tibetan, Chinese and Japanese – the languages of the spread of Buddhism outside India. Works in Persian, the gateway to the study of the history of Islam in South Asia, are also part of the collection. In addition, translations and Western secondary sources allow readers from all backgrounds to learn about the impressive cultural and historical influence of India.

Cinema

As a field of study and teaching at the University of Lausanne, cinema is particularly well represented at BCUL Unithèque. The Cinespace open shelves give you access to over 10,000 DVDs, a selection of Blu-ray disks and all the latest releases. The video collection covers the various trends and genres in international feature films from the very beginning to the present day, including a selection of works from a number of outstanding documentary film makers.
Rare books collections

BCUL’s long history, dating back several centuries, combined with its commitment to heritage preservation, have produced some fine collections of rare books, which are regularly enhanced through donations and acquisitions. The collections kept in the Manuscripts Department and Rare Books Collection can be consulted in a dedicated reading room.

The Renouvaud search tool (Rare books collection – Réserve précieuse) and the inventories you can consult on site (in the Manuscripts Department) are both available to support your research.

The third area of BCUL’s Rare Books collections, the Music Archives, can be found at the Riponne site. All three areas are working on targeted digitisation programs for their collections.

Did you know?

Among the treasures of the Manuscripts Department is the manuscript of *Adolphe* by Benjamin Constant.
Manuscripts Department

The Manuscripts Department acquires and preserves vast sets of manuscript and typed materials and the documentation that accompanies them. There are over 600 collections associated with leading figures in cultural and academic life and associations in Vaud canton, or connected to them.

Around 20 mediaeval manuscripts, over 4,000 old geographical maps and a large number of photographs of a diverse range of subjects complete the collection.

Rare books collection

The rare books collection is home to BCU Lausanne’s most precious printed books, both ancient and modern, including works printed in the 15th and 16th centuries, first editions, books bound by recognised masters of the craft and privately printed artists’ books.
Facilities and public spaces

Access to
- over 800 work spaces (for individual or group work) on three floors
- a self-check machine
- a returnbox for returning materials
- computer work stations and multi-function printers
- on-site access to digital resources for all users and remote access for the university community
- screening rooms for video materials
- a reading room with around 20 seats

Need more information?
Our librarians will answer your questions and help you find the materials you are looking for
- at the Info+ desk at the entrance to the library
- by e-mail: info-dorigny@bcu.unil.ch
- by phone: +41 21 692 47 66

Practical information

Opening hours
- Open shelves and Cinespace
  Monday to Sunday 08:00 – 23:00
- Lending hours
  Monday to Friday 09:00 – 18:00  |  Closed Saturday and Sunday
- Info+ (information and reference desk)
  Monday to Friday 09:00 – 18:00
  UNIL holidays 10:00 – 12:00  |  14:00 – 16:00
- Reading room (Manuscripts, Rare books)
  Monday to Friday 13:00 to 17:00
- Special opening hours and closures
  Main public holidays and inventory

For more information, see bcu-lausanne.ch

Contact
BCU Lausanne, Unithèque site
Quartier Centre
CH-1015 Lausanne-Dorigny
Info+: info-dorigny@bcu.unil.ch, +41 21 692 47 66
Loans: pret@bcu.unil.ch, +41 21 692 47 99
Internef site

Located on the Dorigny campus, close to the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Business and Economics, BCUL Internef offers a range of specialised documentary resources, modern infrastructure and high-quality work spaces.

Its law and economics collections, in printed and digital formats, will interest everyone from students to researchers in the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Business and Economics, lawyers and individuals involved in court proceedings.
Law collection

We provide access to collections in all fields of law:

- publications relating mainly to Swiss law, along with a basic collection covering international, European and German law
- analyses of all historical periods, from the law of classical antiquity to contemporary legal systems
- materials of all kinds: monographs, e-books, printed and digital journals and databases

Economic sciences collection

We focus on the following areas within economic sciences publications:

- economics and economic policy
- finance
- actuarial sciences
- information systems
- accounting and audit
- management
- international management and entrepreneurship
- marketing
- organisational behaviour strategy

Did you know?

We offer access to over 4,000 digital journals and a similar number of e-books, as well as about 50 specialised databases including Swisslex, Weblaw, HeinOnline, Kluwer Law Online Journals, Criminal Justice Abstracts, Business Source Premier, ABI/Inform Global, Econlit Full Text, IMF eLibrary, ORBIS, JSTOR, Passport, etc.
Facilities and public spaces

Access to
- 430 work spaces on two floors
- seven group work areas (six of which can be booked online)
- a self-check machine
- a returnbox for returning materials outside library
- opening hours
- on-site access to digital resources for all users and remote access for the university community
- a nearby cafeteria

Practical information

Opening hours
- Reading room (open shelves)
  Monday to Friday 08:00 – 22:00 | Saturday 08:00 – 18:00
- Lending and information services
  Monday to Friday 08:00 – 18:00 | Saturday closed
- Special opening hours
  Open Sundays before and during examination periods
  12:00 – 18:00
- Closures
  Main public holidays and inventory

For more information, see bcu-lausanne.ch

Contact
BCU Lausanne, Internef site
Quartier Chamberonne
CH-1015 Lausanne-Dorigny
bcu-internef@bcu.unil.ch
Tél. +41 21 692 48 83
Riponne site

Located in the heart of Lausanne city centre, in the Palais de Rumine, BCUL Riponne is open to everyone.

The librarians offer a wide range of services and a high-quality collection of several hundred thousand physical, digital and audiovisual materials.
Collections

Have you managed to climb the 93 steps of the staircase from Place de la Riponne to the library? Now you have our incredibly diverse collection of materials of all kinds at your fingertips.

We acquire books, newspapers, CDs, DVDs and e-books in all fields of knowledge and literature and make them available to support your work or personal research, or just for enjoyment.

As a cantonal library, we are particularly committed to ensuring users have access to all materials related to Vaud canton, its citizens, history, customs and territory. All of these can be found in the “Documentation vaudoise” [Vaud documentation] section. We also maintain the complete, official archive of all works published or printed in the canton since 1938 (legal deposit).

Music is another of our core areas and we have a large collection of CDs of classical and contemporary music, scores and works on musicology. This wide array of items is complemented by a piano in our dedicated contemporary music room and by music archives, where we keep original material from musicians who were born in Vaud or adopted it as their home. Music printing is another service we offer.

Finally, as a registered user you have access to more than 10,000 e-books in French and English, available to borrow free of charge from the eLectures platform.

Did you know?

Are you already satisfied with all the documents in front of you? Our library is like an iceberg: 15% of the documents are within reach. The remaining 85%, i.e. 15 km of basement shelving, can be requested through our Renouvaud catalogue.
Non-French material and language learning

The Madeleine room houses contemporary literature in English, German, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese. If you explore a little further, you will find the Pierre Viret room, which offers all kinds of material for learning around 50 languages, including French for English speakers. Finally, some of our DVDs are based on American and British films, so you will often find versions in their original language or with subtitles.

More information on https://tinyurl.com/BCULForeignCommunities

Need help?

Our librarians will answer your questions and help you find the material you are looking for, either

- at the desk
- by e-mail: info-riponne@bcu.unil.ch
- or by phone: +41 21 316 78 63
Facilities and public spaces

Access to
- over 200 work spaces (for individual or group work) on two floors
- a self-check machine
- two returnboxes for returning materials
- computer work stations with internet access and office IT tools
- photocopiers/printers/scanner and a microfilm reader/scanner
- free Wi-Fi access for all users
- on-site access to electronic resources for all users and remote access for the university community

Need more information?
- take part in our Renouvaud, eLectures and Scriptorium training, on the first Monday of the month at 1 p.m. or by appointment.
- guided tours with a visit to the stacks are offered regularly. Ask the librarians for information about upcoming dates.

Practical information

Opening hours
- Lending and information hours
  Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 10:00 – 18:00
  Thursday 14:00 – 20:00 | Saturday 09:00 – 12:00
- Open shelves & work rooms
  Monday to Friday 08:00 – 22:00 | Saturday 08:00 – 17:00
- Reduced opening hours in summer
- Closures: main public holidays and inventory

More information on bcu-lausanne.ch and +41 21 316 78 31

Contact
BCU Lausanne, site Riponne
Place de la Riponne 6
CH-1014 Lausanne
Information desk: info-riponne@bcu.unil.ch, +41 21 316 78 63
Loans: pretriponne@bcu.unil.ch, +41 21 316 78 60
Access

Unithèque & Internef sites

By metro from Lausanne railway station
Metro M2 towards Croisettes, Lausanne - Flon station, then
Metro M1 towards Renens CFF, UNIL - Chamberonne station
(Internef site) or UNIL - Mouline (Unithèque site)

By metro from Renens railway station
Metro M1 towards Lausanne Flon, UNIL - Mouline station
(Unithèque site) or UNIL - Chamberonne (Internef site)

By car from the motorway
Motorway A1 towards Lausanne-Sud, UNIL - EPFL exit, follow
signs to UNIL. Short-term paid parking spaces available in
the white zones

Riponne site

Parking: place de la Riponne
Metro M2: Riponne - M. Béjart stop
Bus nos 1 and 2: rue Neuve stop
Bus nos 7 and 8: Riponne stop
Bus no 16: Pierre Viret stop

BCU Lausanne sites are accessible for people with reduced mobility. Check the accessibility information for each site on the website bcu-lausanne.ch, “Horaires et lieux” [Times and locations] tab.
Did you know?

BCUL is home to over 2.6 million printed items, over 110,000 e-journals, 430,000 e-books and around 100 databases. In 2018, it was visited over 1.7 million times. Library cards are available to anyone aged 14 or over: request yours now!

BCUL invites you

We run a wide-ranging, diverse programme of free cultural events for the general public. Lectures, exhibitions, workshops and meetings with artists will help you to discover the collections in a different way every time.

Follow BCUL

You will find all the information you need on our website, newsletter and blog. And follow all the library’s activities on Instagram, Facebook and LinkedIn!