The Department of Biochemistry in Cambridge was established in November 1914 under the chairmanship of Professor Sir Frederick Gowland Hopkins. However, it was only in 1924 that the department was able to move into its own building, the construction of which was financed by an endowment to the university of £165,000, part of the bequest of Sir William Dunn.

In 1916 ‘a small but very useful library’ had been established for the department (Annual Report 1916-1917), financed by a grant of £200 from the Board of Education. However, despite donations from several individuals, money was short and for the first few years the library struggled to survive. On the opening of the Sir William Dunn building on Tennis Court Road the Chairman of the Dunn Trustees, Sir Jeremiah Colman, Bart, M.A., provided £2,000 for the establishment of the Biochemistry library that to this day bears his name.

The Colman Library remains in its original location on the ground floor in what is now called the Hopkins building. Fitted, oak bookcases line the walls from floor to ceiling and there are two separate areas, a Reading Room and a Computer/Reference Room with twelve networked machines, two printers and two photocopiers.
Permitted Users

Members of the Department -
All members of the Department of Biochemistry.

Undergraduates -
Undergraduates taking the Medical, Veterinary and Natural Sciences Tripos.

Other University Departments -
Members of other Cambridge University Departments whose work and study requires them to use holdings in the Library.

Others -
Visiting scientists and students by arrangement with the Assistant Librarian.
Plan of the library

Books

Bound Journals (overflow)

Scanner

Work stations and TV

Networked Computers

Books

Reference Books

Part I Ref

Part II/III Ref

Printers

Colour Photocopier

Colour Photocopier

OFFICE

ENTRANCE

READER ROOM

Serials
Journals/Serials held in the Colman Library

The majority of the library resources are journals and serials. The Colman Library defines journals as those periodicals that are published on a regular basis throughout the year and are received in paperback format. Serials are defined as periodicals that are received in a hardback format and which are published irregularly or annually.

All journals and serials are on the Newton Library Catalogue under the database ‘Departments and Faculties A-E’ (link below). To do a search, type the title in the ‘Search’ box on the left, highlight ‘Journal Title’ in the ‘Search By’ box on the right, then click on Search.

http://depfacae-newton.lib.cam.ac.uk/

A finding list to help locate the journals is displayed in the Library.
Electronic Resources

The most comprehensive list of electronic journals, for which full text is available, is the University Library's ejournals@cambridge: http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/ejournals_list/.

Access methods vary but the most common are:

- ID/Password controlled: Since September 2007, Cambridge University Library and the University Computing Service have been operating a local service of authentication using RAVEN to provide access to electronic services previously protected by ATHENS. This is part of the national transition from ATHENS authentication.
  
  Information on RAVEN services can be found at: https://raven.cam.ac.uk/

- IP address recognition: the provider will check that your IP address matches those on the site-licence

- Domain recognition: the provider recognises your computer as being in the cam.ac.uk domain

Electronic journals to which the library does not subscribe can generally be accessed to view tables of contents and abstracts. Full text can usually be obtained on a ‘pay-per-view’ basis. Information on costs and payment methods are given online.
Books

Part I Reference
Undergraduate textbooks and recommended books for MVST IA Biochemistry and Medical Genetics, and NST IB Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. The items are shelved alphabetically by author. They are borrowable on an overnight-loan basis.

General Reference/Dictionaries
A small stock which includes general reference books, information relating to the University of Cambridge, information on grants and research funding, postgraduate information and language dictionaries. These items are NOT borrowable.

Scientific Reference
Assorted items including scientific encyclopaedias, dictionaries, pharmacopoeias, handbooks, tables and nomenclature. These items are NOT borrowable.
Safety Information

The Colman Library holds copies of the University of Cambridge Safety Manual, HSE and HMSO health and safety information and other related items. These are NOT borrowable. Departmental Safety Officers may be consulted for further information. Further information is available from the University Safety Office.

Classified Books (main book collection)

This is the main book stock and includes general and specific texts in a number of key subject areas. The books are categorised using an in-house scheme. Within each section the books are shelved alphabetically by author/editor. Books are borrowable.

The classification scheme is displayed in the Library and on the webpage.

Book Catalogue for Cambridge

Cambridge University has an online public access catalogue, Newton, which is coordinated by the University Library. There are eight databases which detail book holdings in the University and College Libraries. (http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/public_info.html)
All of the Colman Library's book stock is included in the Departments and Faculties A-E database. ([http://depfacae-newton.lib.cam.ac.uk/](http://depfacae-newton.lib.cam.ac.uk/))

Books at the main University Library are detailed in the ‘University Library and Dependent Libraries’. ([http://ul-newton.lib.cam.ac.uk/](http://ul-newton.lib.cam.ac.uk/))

There is a help facility on Newton but if you need further help please see the Assistant Librarian.

**Examination Papers**

Reference copies of the following past examination papers are kept in the Library Office:

- MVST IA (MIMS) Biochemistry
- 2nd MB Biochemistry
- NST IA Biology of Cells
- NST IB Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
- NST Part II and III Biochemistry

Specimen answers to the practical papers for the above examinations are also kept in the Library Office. Use of the answers is restricted to supervisors only.
Part II/III Information

Special provision is made for Part II/III Biochemistry Students:

- A study area equipped with networked computers and printers
- Provision of lecturers’ handouts/references (Provision of these is dependent on each lecturer)
- Access to past examination papers and sample answers to practical papers
- Access to past Part II/III projects
- Career information including ‘Research Topics in the Life & Chemical Sciences’ and ‘Hobson’s Casebook’
Archives

The Colman Library is responsible for the Department's Archives. So far very little work has been undertaken on indexing and cataloguing the collection, but anyone with a genuine interest, either professionally or personally, is welcome to use the collection. The collection consists of:

- Books and publications.
- Ephemera, including a scrapbook of newspaper cuttings dating from 1898.
- Photographs dating from 1898.
- Departmental Publications, including reprints of journal articles from 1906 to date.
- 'Brighter Biochemistry' the illustrated journal of the Biochemical Laboratory, Cambridge. 1923-1931.
- Biographical files.

Cambridge University Library, Department of Manuscripts and University Archives also has material relating to the Department of Biochemistry. ([http://ulmss-newton.lib.cam.ac.uk/](http://ulmss-newton.lib.cam.ac.uk/)) This includes the papers and correspondence of several Cambridge biochemists, including Malcolm Dixon, Kenneth Bailey, Robert Hill, A.C. Chibnall, Joseph Needham and Dorothy Needham. Cataloguing of these collections was undertaken by the National Cataloguing Unit for the Archives of Contemporary Scientists. ([http://archiveshub.ac.uk/contributors/ncuacs.html](http://archiveshub.ac.uk/contributors/ncuacs.html))

The Churchill Archives Centre at Churchill College has collections of papers by Philip Randle, Rosalind Franklin and Cesar Milstein.
Library Network

All the computers are linked to the Library’s Local Area Network. PCs attached to the network are situated in the main part of the Library. All machines currently run under Windows XP.

Login:

At the beginning of an academic year all Part II/III and PhD students will be issued a personal library network login ID and the password. Your login name will be the same as your Hermes login name.

To login on Windows XP machines you must press simultaneously the keys Ctrl, Alt and Del. A login window will appear with two boxes, one for your login name and the other for your password.

Please change your password as soon as possible after receiving it and every couple of months thereafter or whenever you feel it might be compromised. The preferred method of changing your password is by using the ‘Change My Password’ shortcut that can be found on the desktop of both the Macintoshes and Windows PCs.

Good passwords contain combinations of lower and upper-case letters, with numbers and special symbols such as punctuation marks. They should not be words found in a dictionary or anything else that may easily be guessed.

Please Note:

Your password must be between 6 and 8 characters long.

Any user of University of Cambridge computing facilities must conform to the rules set out by the University IT Syndicate.
Printing

The library has a black/white laser printer and a colour laser printer. Both printers are located in the Computer/Reference Room adjacent to the Assistant Librarian’s office.

There is a charge for printing to be paid in advance. There is also a facility for personal accounts.

Currently the printing cost is:

- **Black/white**: 3p per sheet single sided
  5p per sheet double sided
- **Colour**: 20p per sheet single sided
  30p per sheet double sided

The first time that you use the printer from a PC you need to add the printer to your account by:

- Go to **Settings** at the Start menu, and then click on **printers and Faxes**
- Click **add printer**, point to **SRV2447**
- set up your default printer to **HP LaserJet 3005x** (black/white printer).
For double sided printing:
- Go to **Printing Preferences/Properties**
- Click on **Finishing**
- At **Document Options**, drop down the box and choose the option desired (e.g. print on both sides etc)

**Please note** that when an option is selected, it will remain until you change it.

To print in colour, select Printer **Lib3525x on SRV2447**.

**Free quota:**

At the beginning of Lent Term the Part II/III Course Coordinator and the Assistant Librarian will determine how many pages of Options Course material may be copied per student without charge. Student accounts will be credited accordingly.
**Photocopying**

There are two card-operated colour photocopiers available. Cards for students and visitors are available from the Assistant Librarian in the following denominations:

- 100 Units  £5.00
- 40 Units  £2.00

Members of other University of Cambridge Departments can purchase cards using an official purchase order form from their Department.

Prices for photocopying:

- **Black/white:** 1 unit (5p) per sheet A4/A3
- **Colour:** 2 units (10p) per sheet A4/A3

Further information about photocopying, including Copyright Regulations, is available in the Library.
**Book Borrowing**

Classified Books: Up to five items may be borrowed at any one time. The loan period is one week.

Part I Reference: Up to two items can be borrowed at any one time on an overnight basis only, i.e. after 2pm to be returned by 10am the following day or after 2pm on Fridays to be returned by 10am on Monday.

**Borrowing Procedure:**
- Present your University ID card to the Assistant Librarian to register.
- Take the item/s that you want to borrow, together with your University ID card, to the Assistant Librarian.
- An issue card bearing the return date is placed inside the book. This MUST be returned with the book.
  
  Items can only be borrowed during office hours.

**Returning:**

Return the book to the Librarian, or leave on the 'Book Returns' Trolley.

**Inter-Library Loans/Photocopies:**

Inter-Library Loans and photocopies of articles can be obtained by the Assistant Librarian from certain other libraries. This facility is only available for members of the Biochemistry Department and Part II/III Biochemistry students.
Department of Biochemistry
University of Cambridge
Hopkins Building
Downing Site
Cambridge CB2 1QW

Telephone: (3)33613
Fax: (3)33345
Email: library@bioc.cam.ac.uk