“Now one thinks of a library as a learning center where tools of the mind may be stored and utilized.”

Albert Anderson, former Head Librarian of the Gordon Library, 1969
How many people visit the library per week during the academic year?

A. 2,000  
B. 7,000  
C. 14,000  
D. 20,000
During the 2011-2012 academic year, nearly 14,000 people visited the library every week, on average. During A-term, this number was even higher.

Five years ago, the average was 7,750.
“People expect to be able to work, learn, and study whenever and wherever THEY want to.”

2012 Horizon Report New Media Consortium
Did you know?

Through the interlibrary loan program, you can borrow books and items that you would find at your local library, but they will be delivered to WPI instead!
What percentage of the library’s books have not been checked out since 1997?

A. 10
B. 25
C. 31
D. 44
E. 56
44% of the library’s books have not been checked out since 1997, equivalent to 57,280 items. Recognizing the value of the collection, the library is carefully analyzing the print collection as it moves forward in the library visioning process.
Did you know?

You can check out books and materials on behalf of the faculty members that you support. Inquire at the Information Desk for more details!
Help your kids with their school projects by taking advantage of the library’s many in-house and online resources.
_____ items in the library’s collection are owned by fewer than four other libraries nationwide.

A. 541
B. 1,276
C. 3,637
D. 5,001
1,276 items is equal to 1% of the library’s collection of books. These items will be carefully preserved and protected.
“A fundamental fact of digital sustainability is that without preservation, there is no access.”

Sustainable Economics for a Digital Planet: Ensuring Long-Term Access to Digital Information
How many books did the library check out five years ago?

A. 12,602
B. 13,423
C. 15,324
D. 17,867
During the 2007-2008 academic year, the library checked out almost 13,000 books from the collection.
How many books did the library check out last year?

A. 9,946
B. 10,544
C. 13,211
D. 17,843
In the 2011-2012 academic year, about 10,000 books were checked out from the library. This number is on track with the national trend of decreasing book circulation in academic libraries.
Did you know?

On behalf of your academic department, you can place course materials on course reserves so that students will have access to required textbooks in the library.
Kick back and relax during your lunch break with the Worcester T & G (also fully available online through the library’s website!)
True or false?

The library has quiet places to study.
While many students use the library as a collaborative space, the first floor and parts of the third floor are designated for quiet study.
The number of people visiting the library has increased _____% over 5 years.

A. 10  
B. 25  
C. 55  
D. 80
The number of people visiting the library over the past five years has risen dramatically. During the 2007-2008 academic year, 260,775 people visited the library. In 2011-2012, the number skyrocketed to 467,096.

Significant building renovations and multiple points of service points have contributed to the increase in foot traffic to the library.
“Convenience affects all aspects of information seeking—the selection, accessibility, and use of sources.”

Last year the library checked out the Tech Suite keys ____ times.

A. 3,723
B. 9,644
C. 12,982
D. 13,556
The library has 11 Tech Suites that were used 13,556 times during the 2011-2012 school year. In the 2007-2008 school year, 7 Tech Suites were used 7,417 times.

Despite the record number of Tech Suite check-outs, 1,100+ groups are turned away each year due to lack of Tech Suite availability.
Tech Suites Key Rack

8AM, Daily

3PM, Daily
Hungry? Grab a bite to eat at the café. The lines are shorter here than at the Campus Center!
The library doesn’t have anything “fun” to read.

True or false?
The library purchases fiction and non-fiction Bestsellers.

The library also subscribes to several popular magazines including Popular Mechanics, Consumer Reports, and Vogue.
The library only has serious research materials.

True or false?
The library has board games and puzzles for use in the library. The library also purchases loanable video games and houses an extensive circulating film collection.
What does the library mean to you?