



Course Materials Online

- ◆ Connecting the classroom with the library
 - CAUSE/CNI Southeast Regional Preconference



How we started

- ◆ Discussed the problem
 - Determined that we could use an electronic reserve system
- ◆ Evaluated some commercial online reserve systems



First Steps

- ◆ An Ereserve Web Site
- ◆ At the top: Ereserve homepage
 - Instructor list page
 - Course list page
 - Simple, WAIS-based search option

Netscape - [University Libraries Electronic Reserve]

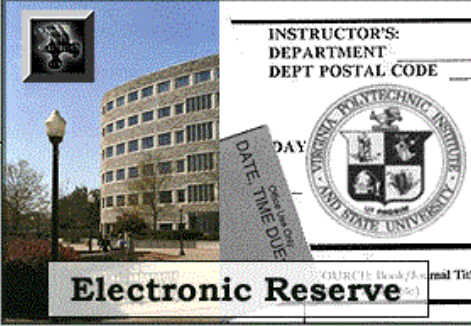
File Edit View Go Bookmarks Options Directory Window Help

Back Forward Home Reload Images Open Print Find Stop

Netsite: N

What's New? What's Cool? Destinations Net Search People Software

University Libraries




Electronic Reserve


[Browse by Courses](#)

[Browse by Instructors](#)

- [Attention First Time Users](#)
- [General Instructions](#)
- [Submit Entries - Course Instructors Only](#)

 [Acrobat Reader and Configuration Information](#)

or Search for:

 [Return to ULIS Home Page](#)

webmaster@vatech.lib.vt.edu

Document: Done




Select Acrobat

- ◆ Initially required all course materials to be provided as Acrobat PDF (Portable Document Format) and still strongly encourage this
- ◆ Why?
 - Free Reader
 - Cross Platform support
 - Easy conversion process for rich content



What we learned...

- ◆ Acrobat would work but required training
- ◆ Hand-edited HTML pages would never scale to a campus of our size



Creating an Ereserve Database

- ◆ Selected Oracle, free to departments on campus
- ◆ Looked to paper reserve as a model for Electronic Reserve Database
 - Paper notebooks included most of the same information we would need for an electronic file
 - Organization readily mapped to a database



The Database

- ◆ Three main tables:
 - ER_instructor includes fields identifying the instructor including name, department, email.
 - ER_course includes fields describing the class such as course name, number, term.
 - ER_bib includes fields describing the electronic file such as title, author and filename.



Links between tables

- ◆ To make the database flexible and scalable, we utilize linker tables
 - ER_ic_link links one instructor to multiple courses
 - ER_bc_link links one course to multiple files (e.g. syllabus, reading assignments, URLs)


Netscape - [University Libraries Electronic Reserve]

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Options Directory Window Help

Back Forward Home Reload Images Open Print Find Stop

Netsite: <http://reserve.lib.vt.edu/old/old-reserve96.html>

What's New? What's Cool? Destinations Net Search People Software



Electronic Reserve
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Blacksburg, Virginia

[Search](#) | [Fair Use Guidelines](#) | [Acrobat Reader](#)

Download Acrobat Reader* *NOW* to access most online course materials.

General Instructions for Using EReserve

[Attention 1st Time Users](#) [Acrobat Reader and Configuration Information*](#)

[Handout for Students](#) [Start here if you are looking for class notes!](#)

[Handout for Faculty](#) [Co pyright Guidelines](#)

Faculty/Course Instructors

[FAQs -- frequently asked questions by faculty](#)

EReserve provides students with a central source of electronic course materials available from Virginia Tech faculty and instructors. There are currently three ways the library helps faculty/instructors provide their students with Internet access to electronic course materials. EReserve (1) maintains an integrated [index of classes and faculty](#) with online course materials, whether those materials reside on [servers outside the library](#) or on the EReserve server. (2) It gives faculty direct access to the EReserve server so they can store and manage their course home pages there. And, the (3) library manages, stores, and provides access for faculty to their course materials on

Document: Done



Dynamic Web Pages

- ◆ Developed a Perl-based gateway between Oracle and the Web:ORG
 - Some searches forms-based
 - Some searches embedded in hypertext links



Extending our services

- ◆ Oracle allowed our system to be flexible as well as scalable
 - Added fields such as course index and description with minimal effort
 - Added support for a campus course homepage registry



Staff Issues

- ◆ Three staff manage Ereserve part time
- ◆ VT support infrastructure helps students
- ◆ FDI sessions help faculty
- ◆ Some CLIOs pick up where FDI leaves off
- ◆ Still a need for high level technical support


Netscape - [VT Libraries' Online Class Materials homepage]

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Options Directory Window Help

Back Forward Home Reload Images Open Print Find Stop

Netsite: http://reserve.lib.vt.edu/

What's New? What's Cool? Destinations Net Search People Software



STUDENTS



Access online class materials by

- browsing a list of [course numbers](#)
- browsing a list of [instructors' names](#)
- entering course number

Dept: No: Search

- entering (all or part of) instructor's last name

Search

["fair use"](#)

FACULTY AND INSTRUCTORS

Give students access to course materials:

- [Web homepage stored on your server](#)
--managed by you
- [Web homepage stored on the library's server](#)
--managed by you ([homepage template](#))
- Course materials stored on the library's server
--managed by the library

[copyright guidelines](#)

Document: Done



New Staff Interface

- ◆ Database was initially managed by Library Automation
- ◆ We are now testing a PL/SQL-based package called ER-staff that permits staff to
 - Edit and delete instructors, courses and materials and
 - add new items through a Web browser

Netscape - [Ereserve: Login]

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Options Directory Window Help

Back Forward Home Reload Images Open Print Find Stop

Netsite:

What's New? What's Cool? Destinations Net Search People Software



Electronic Reserve: Login

Login screen to Ereserve System

User Name:

User Password:

Clear Values

Submit User Information

Document: Done

Netscape - [Record AOE,4144,4113]

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Options Directory Window Help

Back Forward Home Reload Images Open Print Find Stop

Netsite:

What's New? What's Cool? Destinations Net Search People Software

Record AOE,4144,4113

Change this record Delete this record AOE 4144 4113

Name:	<input type="text" value="Aircraft Automatic Flight Control"/>	Department:	<input type="text" value="AOE"/>
Course Number:	<input type="text" value="4144"/>	Course Index:	<input type="text" value="4113"/>
Term:	<input type="text" value="FS"/>	Year:	<input type="text" value="96"/>
Description:	<input type="text" value="Aircraft Automatic Flight Control System Analysis"/>	Number of Students:	<input type="text" value="6"/>

Submit

Document: Done



Current Activity

- ◆ Nearly 100 professors have materials online
- ◆ Students accessed Acrobat/PDF course materials nearly 10,000 times in the last week



Future Plans

- ◆ More promotion
- ◆ Integrating the notebooks used to track paper/real/physical reserve materials like books and articles
- ◆ Automatic submissions with staff monitoring and fixing problems instead of submitting