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“The Quickest Way from Q to A”

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Summer Picnic (Table) Advice: Library Edition

Summer semester is here, and I am sitting at a UWF Picnic Table™ as I write this, where someone has written advice for me. “Look up at the UFO.” So, I look up but see no UFO, only a rain cloud. (I identified it; therefore, it is not unidentified. And it’s not really flying but floating. *) The next piece of advice says, “Look up at the enormous black spider.” But I won’t do it, captain, because I’m beginning to suspect that you may be hiding in the bushes watching—and maybe recording—people looking up at nothing and laughing your head off. Unless there really is a big black spider. In which case, I better peek. No, no. But what if it is the really creepy kind with furry legs? YOU GOT ME, FINE.

“What does all this have to do with the library?” you may ask. If you have to ask, you’ll never know.

Well, maybe you will, if you stick around and let me contrive a reason. Here you go. I’m gonna give you library-related advice that you can’t find on a picnic table:

1. Read for Fun. Request a book for one of our Kindles via our website. We will place the title on it and contact you when it’s ready for pick-up.
2. See Spot Run. Check out a Go Pro Camera, find the picnic table, pretend there really is a spider, hit record, run. Watch with friends.**
3. Study Here. Find peace and quiet here on 4th Floor, the Quiet Floor.
4. Study There. Log into our resources at our website and find scholarly articles in your pajamas. Click the “Access” tab on our website to log-in.
5. Study in My Office. Set up an appointment with a librarian if you get stuck and need help. Contact me (top right!) and I’ll get you to the right librarian for your discipline.
6. Find this particular picnic table on campus, take a selfie, and send it to me. It seems like a fun thing to do, and we may just tweet about it #stallstreetjournal #spiderbite.

*Which makes it an IFO, Identified Floating Object, for those keeping score.

**Naming yourself Spot, optional.



Resources to Help You with Your Research Assignments

Do your summer classes feel condensed like Campbell’s soup? Before your brain turns into Cream of Mushroom, check out these resources that will help you out:

- Research guides. Librarians make research guides for every discipline on campus. Check them out: <http://libguides.uwf.edu>. They will point you to which databases to use and give you searching tips.
- Citation Guide. Get help with those pesky APA, MLA, Chicago, or Turabian citations: <http://libguides.uwf.edu/citingsources>
- Ask-a-Librarian Live Chat on our homepage.
- Databases by Subject. Find a database that is good for your topic under the Databases tab on our homepage.

Send questions, comments, and *unsolicited advice* to Britt McGowan at bmcgowan@uwf.edu



University of West
Florida Libraries

Circulation Department 2.0.

Pardon our progress as a complete renovation of Circulation takes place this summer. It will be worth it, I assure you.

This is who comes after you if you don’t return your books on time.

