Borrowing from non-Georgetown Institutions (Interlibrary Loan)

Georgetown law libraries’ collection of research materials is quite extensive; however, if you are doing specialized or interdisciplinary research, you may need to request items from another institution.

The most efficient way to search for the materials you need is to first determine if they are held in one of the Georgetown law libraries (Williams or Wolff). If they are not, then see if one of the other Georgetown libraries carries them. If you have never used our catalog or the main campus catalog, you can view tutorials on how to use these resources by clicking on the hyperlinks above.

If your research does not uncover any resources at Georgetown libraries, you can search other institutions’ holdings and request interlibrary loans using WorldCat. WorldCat aggregates materials from other institutions into a single display. Here is a book I am interested in reviewing, but it is an e-book: note that e-books, perhaps counterintuitively, frequently have more restrictive loan practices than physical books. E-book borrowing from other institutions is usually not an option at all.

Going back to the results, physical copies of the book are available on subsequent pages. If I look at the item in question, there is a link to request it via Interlibrary Loan, or “ILL.” If you have never used the ILLiad ILL service before, you will have to set up an account. Otherwise, log in to ILLiad, review the details of the request that have been auto-filled for you, and submit it.

It can take about 2 weeks for books to be delivered through ILL and note that the loan period is set by the lending institution, not by Georgetown. You will be notified via e-mail when your book is ready for pick-up.

Please return all ILL materials promptly in order to maintain cordial relationships with other libraries.

For additional assistance, please contact a reference librarian.