

Senate House Library Guide



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www.senatehouselibrary.ac.uk
Open Monday - Saturday

Getting Started

The Welcome & Service Halls on the 4th Floor are the main Library hubs for enquiries and services. Study space is available in the historic reading rooms on the 4th floor as well as the 5th-7th floors. Please keep your Library card with you at all times so you can access all services.

Operating Hours

Opening times vary in and out of term times. Please check the Library website and social media for the latest updates. Entry to the Library ceases 15 minutes before the times below.

MAIN LIBRARY

Monday – Thursday: 09:00 – 20:45 (17:45 out of term)
Friday: 09:00 – 18:15 (17:45 out of term)
Saturday: 09:45 – 17:15
Sunday: Closed

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Open Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday:
10:00 - 16:00

ALL STUDY SPACES MUST BE BOOKED ONLINE / VIA EMAIL IN ADVANCE

Computers & WiFi

Library members can borrow laptops for use in the Library from the Service Hall.

NETWORK	UoL Libraries
USERNAME	Membership number
PASSWORD	Last name (lowercase letters including any spaces or punctuation)

Printing and copying

Printing services are linked with your Library account – log in to activate: <http://shlib.uk/login>. Add credit to your Library card for these services in the Service Hall and/or online. You can copy, scan and release print jobs using the machines on floors 4, 5 and 6.

	A4	A3
Black & white copy/print	£0.05	£0.10
Colour copy/print	£0.25	£0.50
Scan to PDF	£0.04	£0.04

Finding books & materials

Search the catalogue on the Library's website for an item's location in the Library and the class-mark so you can find it on the shelf. Items marked 'Stack Service' can be ordered by clicking the 'Request' button on the catalogue. Items are normally delivered within a few hours and can be collected from the Service Hall. Items from the Offsite Store take 24-48 hours.

For Archives & Special Collections enquiries, email: shl.specialcollections@london.ac.uk

Finding journals

Recent issues of printed journals are usually shelved in the 4th floor Periodicals Room. The catalogue will indicate the shelving bay number. The majority of journals are available electronically and can be accessed onsite or remotely by clicking the links on the catalogue and using your login.

Borrowing

You can borrow books and take them outside the Library by getting them issued at the main desk or 'self-issue points' in the Service Hall. The due date will be stamped in the book or printed on your receipt. Books can be renewed if not requested by other readers. Subject to terms and conditions.

UL undergraduate/administrative staff	10
UL taught postgraduate student	15
UL research student/academic staff	20
Paid membership	10
SCONUL Band A	4

Membership

Become a member of one the largest research libraries in the world!

- University of London Students & Staff: Free* (with presentation of current institutional ID)
- Public / Other Institutions: 1 day pass for £5 (photographic ID & proof of address required)
- 3 months membership - £70 (equivalent to 75p per day)
- 1 year membership - £210 (equivalent to 58p per day)

* With the exception of Birkbeck & UoL Worldwide students

Contact us

In person **4th floor Service Hall**
Email senatehouselibrary@london.ac.uk

Phone **020 7862 8500**
www.senatehouselibrary.ac.uk
This guide is available in other formats upon request.

Senate House Library

One of the UK's largest academic libraries for arts, humanities & social sciences

From medieval illuminated manuscripts and rare first editions through to clandestine publications and more recent political pamphlets, Senate House Library's collection of over 2 million books, 50 special collections and 1,600 archival collections is unique in its breadth and diversity of material.

The Library and its collections have been continuously developed since the 1870s and include highlights such as the first folios of Shakespeare published in 1623, a roll depicting the funeral of Anne of Cleves from 1557 and Lord Byron's unfinished draft for the end of *Don Juan* dated 1823.

The archive collections contain items such as unique photographs of the Suffragette movement and personal letters from well-known writers such as Virginia Woolf, known for her connection to the

Bloomsbury area. There are also letters from Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and Harry Houdini to Harry Price, a collector on magic and the paranormal who deposited his 'Harry Price Library of Magical Literature', in the Library in 1936, just as Senate House's construction was being completed.



Senate House Library also invests in contemporary research and

runs a public engagement programme with two exhibitions a year, highlighting the research potential in the collection. Alongside the exhibition is a series of events open to the public as well as students and academics to engage a variety of people from young adults through to researchers.

Offering Arts, Humanities and Social Science Research in the heart of London's student and research community, members of the library have access to millions of books and journals, digital resources, and beautiful study spaces. Senate House Library manages the art collection of the University of London, and the library and archive collections of the School of Advanced Study's Institutes of Commonwealth Studies, Modern Languages Research and Latin American Studies.



Exhibition space



Middlesex North Reading Room



A brief overview & history of the Library

The art deco building, which Senate House Library is part of, is a literary landmark in the heart of Bloomsbury, located next to the British Museum.

Senate House Library occupies the 4th to the 19th floors of the building with member areas on the 4th to 7th floors containing over 430 study spaces.

There are 6 main historic library reading rooms on the 4th floor:
• Goldsmiths' Library reading room
• Middlesex South and North reading rooms
• Sterling Library / Palaeography room (Special Collections)
• Durning Lawrence Library
• Periodicals room

Also on the 4th floor is the Durning Lawrence Library and the Dr Seng Tee Lee Seminar Room which are used for meetings and private hire.

Senate House Library was formerly known as the University of London Library. The University of London

was founded in 1836 and, two years later, in 1838 it received its first donation of 200 books. The first known mention to the University of London Library appears in 1846. Only in 2004 was it renamed Senate House Library. The Library is open to the public as well as students and academics of the University of London – membership is required.

In 1937, after a century of being housed in temporary premises, the University of London and its Library permanently moved to Senate House. The beautiful art deco building was constructed between 1932 and 1937 as the first phase of an uncompleted scheme designed for the University by Charles Holden. It consists of 19 floors and is 210 feet (64 m) high.

During the Second World War the Ministry of Information used Senate House as its headquarters. The building would later become the model for the 'Ministry of Truth'

in George Orwell's *Nineteen Eighty Four*. Today Senate House is an architectural landmark in the heart of Bloomsbury and is open to the public for events and conferences. It is also a popular venue for film and TV productions.




Explore the Library


LOCATIONS

- Archives 4
- Archaeology 5
- Art 5
- Book Studies 4
- Classics 5
- Commonwealth 6
- Economics 7
- Education 7
- English 5
- Film & Media 5
- Geography 7
- Germanic 5
- Health 7
- History 4&5
- History of Science 7
- IGS 4
- Latin American 6
- Law 7
- Linguistics 5
- Manuscripts 4
- Music 4
- NCH 4
- NYU 5
- Palaeography 4
- Philosophy 6
- Politics 7
- Psychology 6
- Religion 7
- Romance Languages 5
- Sociology 7
- Special Collections 4
- Theatre 5
- Toilets 4
- United States 6


- COLLECTIONS HELD OUTSIDE OF SENATE HOUSE LIBRARY
- Heythrop
- IALS
- ICLASS
- IHR
- Wallace Collection
- Warburg




Accessibility phone




Refuge point




Toilets




Lifts




Print/copy




Stairs




Reshelving



Help



Seating



Study carrel

* Meetings and private hire only

Using Library spaces

Bottled water

Silent phone use

Food and drink

✓

✓

✗

Bottled water

Phone calls

Food and drink

✓

✓

✗

Silent phone use

Bottled water

Food and drink

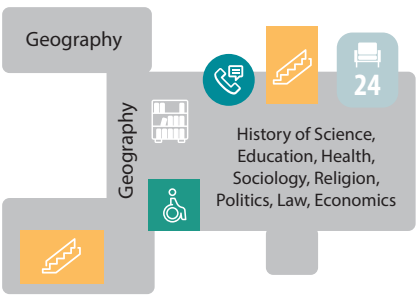
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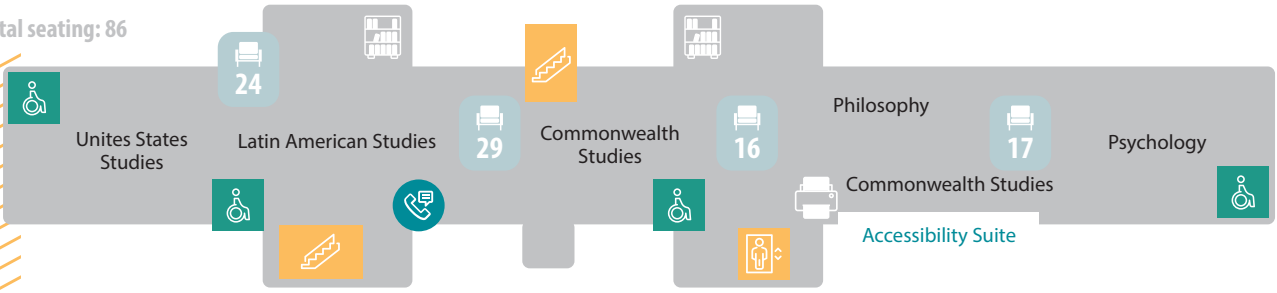
FLOOR 7

Total seating: 24



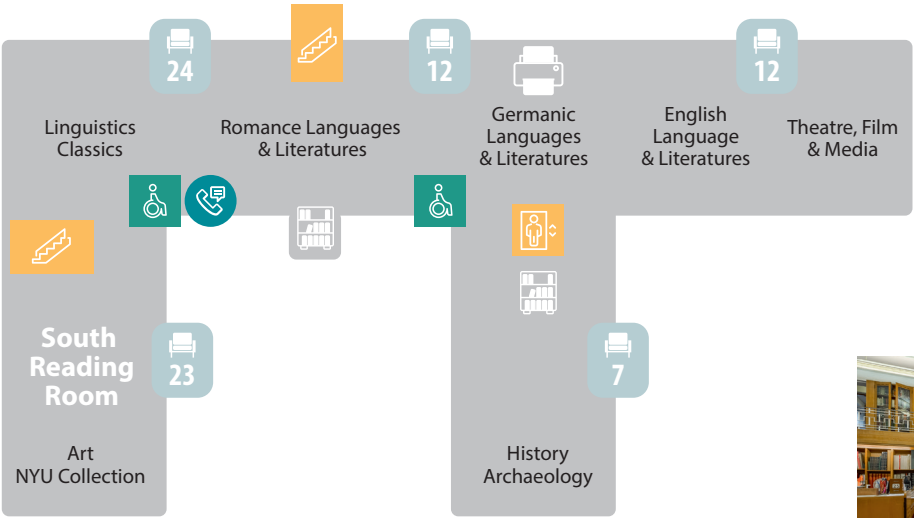
FLOOR 6

Total seating: 86



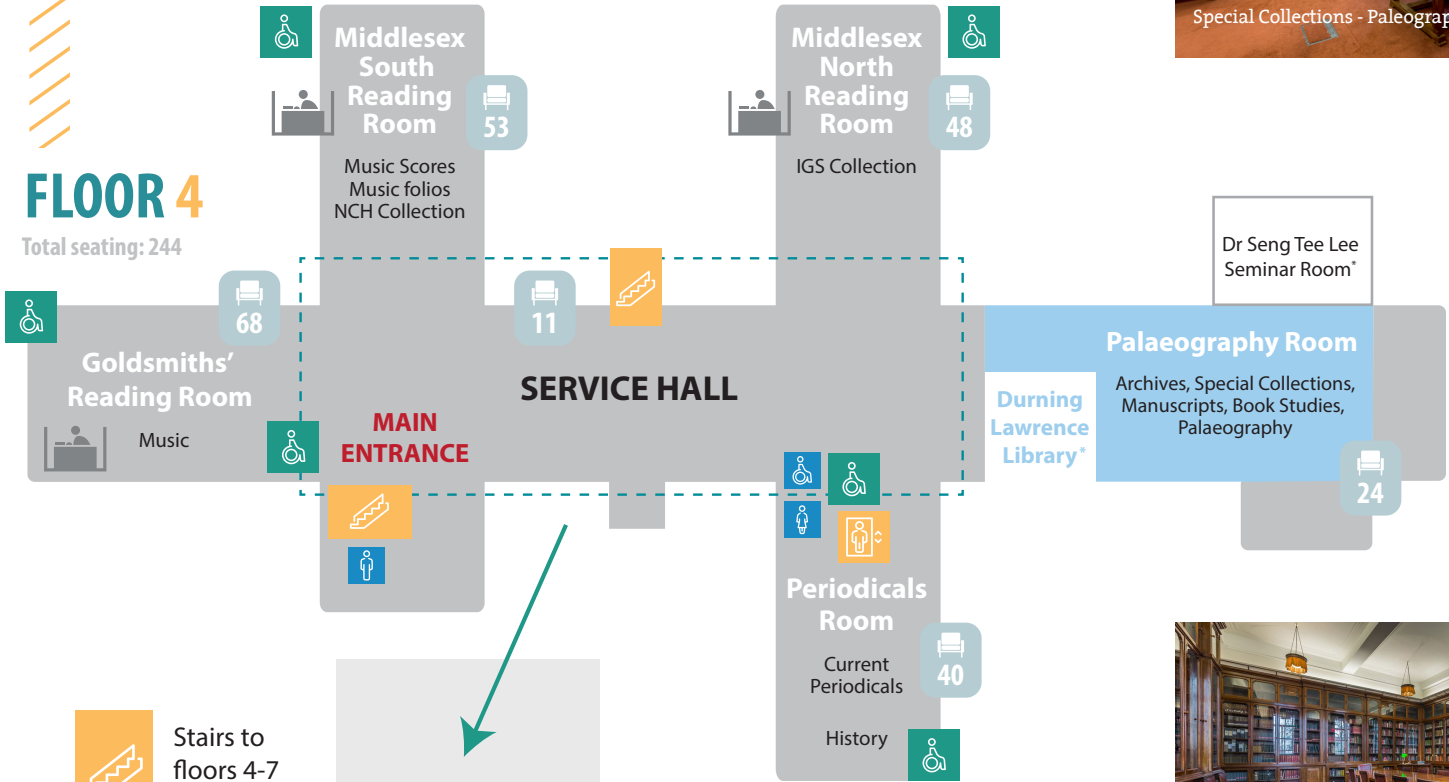
FLOOR 5

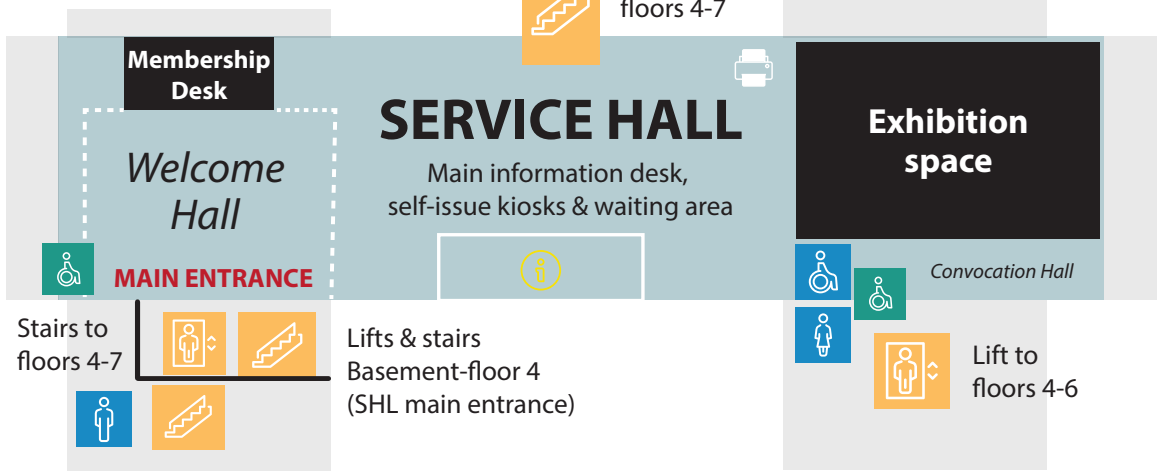
Total seating: 78




FLOOR 4


Total seating: 244









Library study space




Goldsmith Reading Room



Special Collections - Paleography Room



Durning Lawrence Library



The Periodicals Room