

Lise Maitner



"I do most of my research from my office and want papers—journal articles –yesterday; I love ILL. When I need help, I turn to my librarian—it needs to be right and needs to be quick."

Personal Information

Age: 36

Discipline: Biophysics

Position: Tenure-track, Department of Physics

Work Spaces: Her office, her lab, and from home

Tools: Canvas, Word, Adobe, specialized scientific programs

Devices: Works on MacBook Pro (used with large monitors in her office), iPhone, lab computer and external hard drives.

Key Differentiators...

- Occasionally uses the library website to find articles for research or books for personal reading. Otherwise, searches specialty databases, not necessarily library-supplied: ArXiv, Web of Science, Google Scholar
- Except for the occasional book (prefers not to read e-books), she wants access to everything immediately online
- Knows her subject librarian and contacts her when she needs specific help
- Puts textbooks on reserve and expects her grad students to use library resources for their research and study
- Occasionally visits the Price Science Commons to pick up materials
- Her research produces a lot of data that is currently stored on lab hard drives—needs reliable, cloud-based storage space

Interacts with the Library to...

- Use interlibrary loan
- Get assistance locating and accessing materials
- Search databases for articles and LibrarySearch for books
- Come in and pick up a requested book
- Use library technology (e.g. Canvas, Crestron) to teach classes efficiently

Cares Most About...

- Her research, winning grant money, and getting her papers published
- Fast, seamless access to online literature in her field
- Getting a quick, accurate answer if she gets stuck
- Being a successful instructor; particular concerns about female, minority, and under-represented students in the sciences getting the support they need

Asks About/Has Frustrations with...

- Why something isn't available electronically when the catalog says it should be
- Why she can't easily download book chapters from some electronic books
- Classrooms not meeting technology expectations
- Unaware of Office 365; uses Dropbox for sharing and storage of documents

Day in a Life

An early-career professor and researcher with a family, Lise strives to be very focused and organized—aided by liberal infusions of caffeine—in order to manage her many responsibilities.

Arriving on campus in the morning, the first thing Lise does is make sure she is prepared for the class she is teaching later in the day. She then checks in on the two grad students working in her lab. Once she feels those things are under control, she turns to her research. She will be up for tenure in a couple of years and thus feels some pressure. She has a goal to publish 5-6 peer-reviewed papers in important journals in her field within the next two years. A scientist in her field just shared something really interesting on Twitter and Lise follows up on this new idea by searching for preprints on ArXiv, which she has bookmarked on her browser. Then she goes to Web of Science (also bookmarked) to search on the author to see who has cited him and to look for related articles by following links in the bibliographies and citing references.

Following a quick lunch, she's off to teach her large, lecture class at 1p.m. She uses PowerPoint and plays a couple of short video clips from YouTube in her lecture. After her class, she continues work on a looming grant proposal, and is interrupted a few times to talk to graduate students and a colleague. She recommends to one female graduate student close to finishing her degree that she search the library catalog for a book on success strategies for women in science that she recalls seeing, but for which she can't remember the exact title. She suggests to the student that if she can't find the book, she talk to the subject librarian.

After a couple of hours working on the grant, she checks her email, sees that a couple of articles she requested through ILL are available—but that one article request could not be supplied, probably due to incorrect or insufficient citation information—and also that a book she requested from Summit has come in. She shoots off an email to her subject librarian asking for help with the problem article citation so she can re-request it. Needing a break, she then walks to the Price Science Commons to pick up her book and get more coffee. Her husband will be picking up the kids, so she goes back to working on her grant proposal until 6 p.m. Later in the evening, she'll read a couple of the papers she downloaded to her laptop and answer more emails.