



## A MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Dear Hostos students,

Although our doors are closed, the Hostos Library is still here for you!

**Any books that you borrowed before the crisis** have been renewed automatically. You will NOT be fined if the original due date was after March 12. We know that you can't return the books now, while campus is closed.

**Any laptop that you borrowed before the crisis** has also been renewed at least until May 29. IF Hostos re-opens the campus before May 29, you will need to bring it back by May 29. If we are not open by then, of course we will extend the loan.

If you *need* a laptop and have not already signed up to receive a loaner laptop from Hostos IT, please go here and use your Hostos username and password to request one: <https://my.hostos.cuny.edu/other/Loaner>

### Course readings and textbooks

Because of the crisis, most textbooks are now available online for free and can be borrowed until May 25. Here's where you can look:

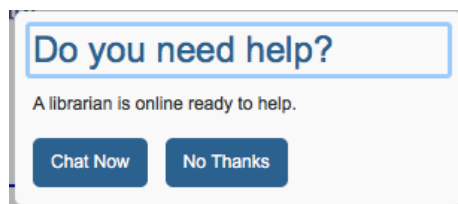
- [RedShelf Responds](#) - set up a free account using your Hostos email address; more info here: [bit.ly/hostosredshelf](http://bit.ly/hostosredshelf)
- [VitalSource Helps](#) - log in using your Hostos email address; more info here: [bit.ly/hostosvital](http://bit.ly/hostosvital)

For books that are not textbooks (especially some older books and novels), a good place to look is here:

\* [Internet Archive National Emergency Library](#) (you must set up a free account in order to read the whole book, more info here: [bit.ly/hostosinternetarchive](http://bit.ly/hostosinternetarchive))

If you have trouble finding your textbook, please contact your professor or ask a librarian via our chat (open Mon-Thurs 9-9, Fri 9-5, Sat/Sun 12-5): click on either chat button on the [library website](#):

We're available to chat. Ask us a question.



### Online support

- The Library's [<https://guides.hostos.cuny.edu/onlineservices>] guide to online services answers the most frequent questions, and we are updating it.
- For quick individual questions, contact us through **one-on-one chat reference, described above** (it pops up automatically on the library [homepage](#))
- For a **longer research consultation**, sign up for a [Rocket Your Research](#) appointment.
- As always, we have **books and articles that you can read online**. You can search for them here in [OneSearch](#)

We also have a [guide with links to help for immigrants](#) during the Coronavirus crisis (and other help, too). If you or anyone you know could use help, please see that guide.

Please don't forget [Research 101 guide](#) (click on this picture on the [library's homepage](#)):



The guide helps answer such questions as:

#### Getting started

[How can I choose a good topic and narrow my focus?](#)

#### Looking for sources

[What kinds of sources should I look for?](#)

[How do I use OneSearch \(library search engine\) to look for books and articles?](#)

[What do I do if my searches are not finding me what I want?](#)

[What is a database, and how do I find one?](#)

[How do I use an e-book?](#)

[What are peer-reviewed articles and how can I find them?](#)

[How do smart researchers use Google \(I already know how to Google - what more is there to know?!\)](#)

[What are some strategies for finding primary sources?](#)

[What do I do if I found a scholarly article online and it's asking me to pay?](#)

#### Evaluating sources

[How can I evaluate sources for credibility?](#)

[How can I evaluate sources for their relevance to my own research?](#)

[How can I evaluate if a source is right for me to read right now? \(and if I need background sources to help me understand, how do I get them?\)](#)

In addition to research help, we also have a [citation guide](#) that answers questions such as:

[What does it mean to cite a source?](#)

[What should I think about when quoting/paraphrasing others' words?](#)

[Rules for APA format/citation with sample papers](#)

[Rules for MLA format/citation with sample papers](#)

[Rules for Chicago format/citation](#)

We also are reaching out to your professors, and hope to be working with many of them to provide support for specific assignments as well.

We want to hear your questions and help you have a successful time with your research. We wish you all a

safe spring.

- from your Hostos Librarians and Library Staff

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