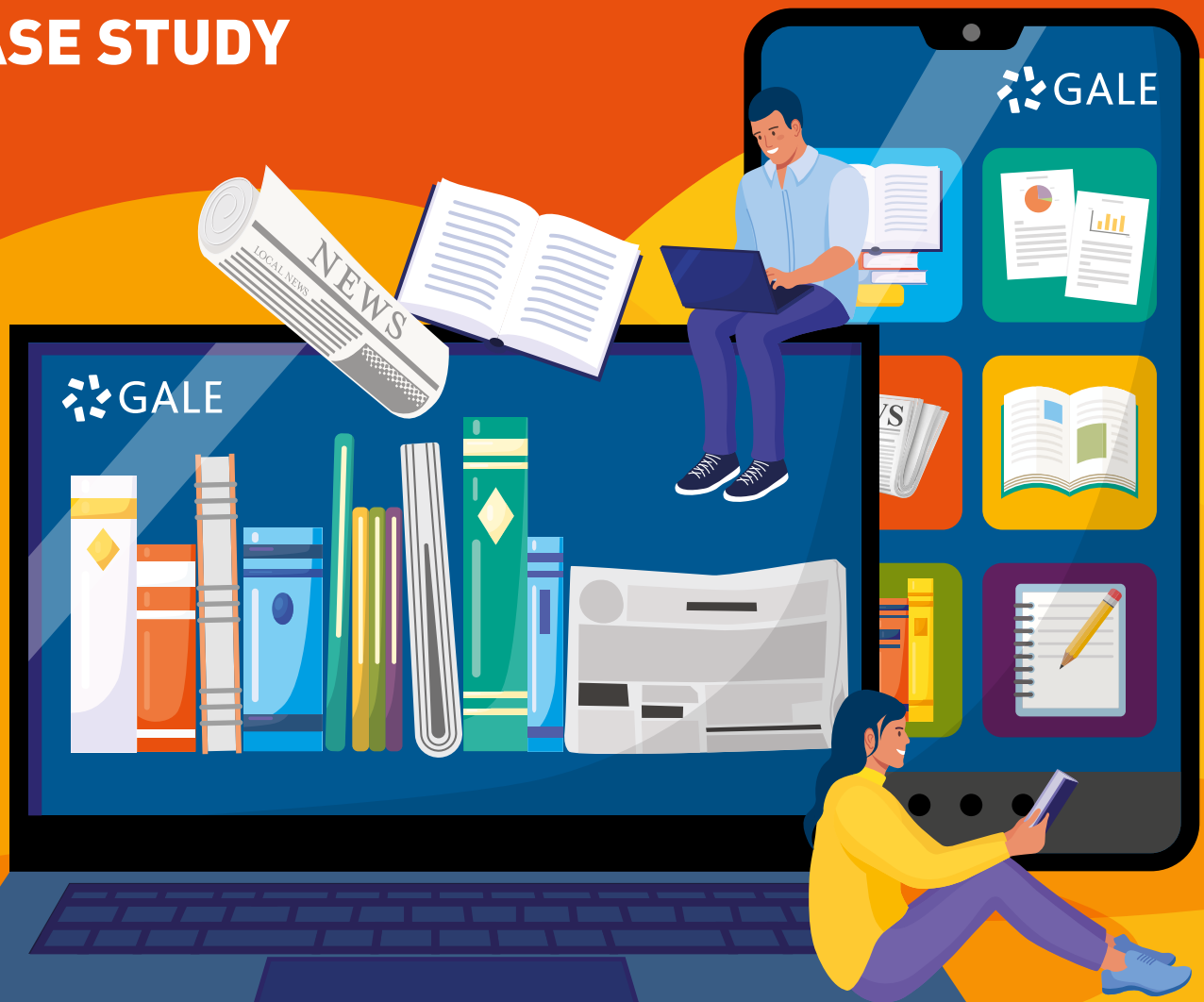


CASE STUDY



BRINGING INFORMATION
TOGETHER - MAXIMISING IMPACT WITH:

GALE NEWS, BUSINESS AND REFERENCE

Academic and Digital Library Liaisons (ADLLs) at Edinburgh College maximise the impact of Gale resources by bridging the needs of students, faculty, and the library.



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Role and experience

At Edinburgh College, the liaisons between academic departments, students, and the library are known as Academic and Digital Library Liaisons, or ADLLs. The team of five ADLLs, who have over 60 years of combined experience, work with curriculum areas, integrates collections, and delivers information literacy courses to assist learning and teaching.

“Our role is the bridge between academic departments, students, and the library.”

Library Goals and Objectives:

The main objective of the library is to empower library user experiences by providing a physical and digital environment that meet their needs and will improve their opportunities for future study or work.

The aim is to contribute to an excellent student experience alongside supporting staff and departments to achieve their curriculum targets and outcomes. The library also aims to contribute to College goals by being agile, impactful, and responsive to challenges.

“Our mission is to empower library user experiences by providing a physical and digital environment that meets their needs.”

Managing Budgetary Constraints:

Managing a small and decreasing budget is a major challenge for the library. They tackle this by prioritising acquisitions that successfully satisfy curricular and student needs by using data-driven insights and a needs-led approach to purchasing.

“Our biggest struggle is our small and ever-decreasing budget, but we manage this by taking a needs-led approach to purchases.”

Student and Staff Demographics:

Edinburgh College serves over 27,000 students from diverse backgrounds, supported by approximately 1,200 staff members. Each ADLL engages with thousands of students across various courses and qualification levels, including full-time, part-time, evening, and distance learning students.

Faculty Engagement:

The ADLLs employ flexible communication strategies tailored to each department to inform faculty about available resources such as *Gale News, Business, and Reference*. Methods include targeted discussions, emails, faculty training sessions, and integration into virtual learning environments.

Student Outreach:

Promotion of Gale resources to students occurs through information literacy sessions, research demonstrations, suggested reading lists, and assistance from front-line Library Assistants.

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The aim is to provide multiple access points to resources both physically and virtually.

Successful Outreach Initiatives:

Staff awareness and use of Gale resources has successfully expanded thanks to programmes like development days and library drop-in sessions. These workshops provide opportunity for practical investigation and customised guidance.

Tailoring Communication Efforts:

Sessions on information literacy are tailored based on course levels and subjects, guaranteeing that students learn how to use resources such as Gale for certain assignments in a relevant and efficient way.



Popular Features within Gale:

Gale PowerSearch serves as an entry point for students, while features like the topic finder and the Readspeaker function cater to diverse learning needs and preferences.

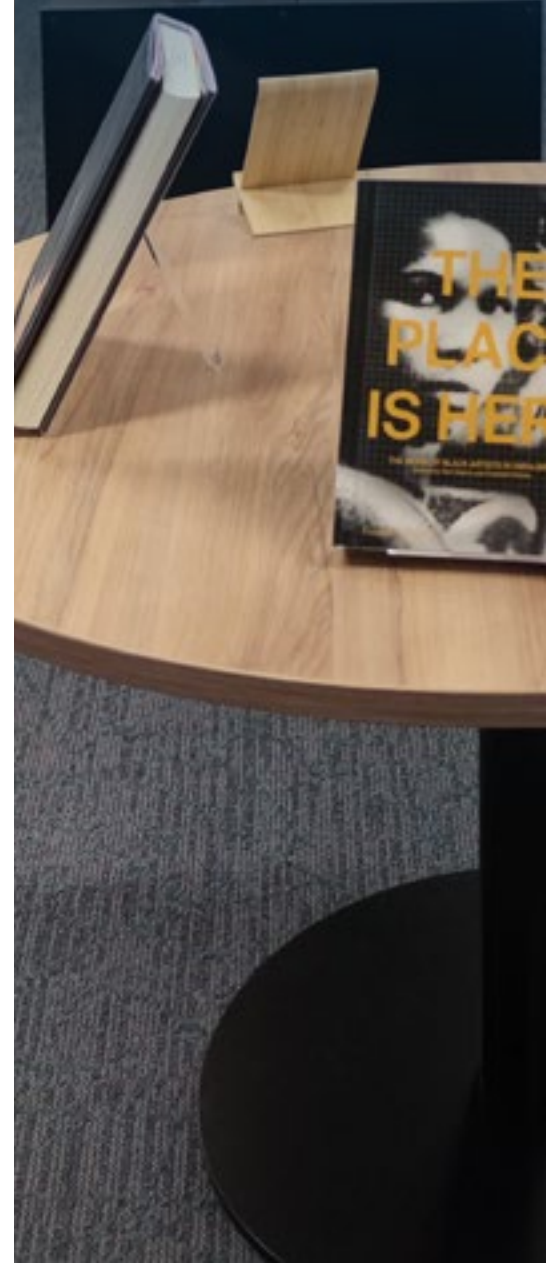
Curriculum Alignment:

Collaboration with faculty members ensures resources are aligned with curriculum requirements, increasing student engagement and usage. Clear demonstrations of relevance enhance faculty buy-in and support.

Overcoming Challenges:

Challenges such as limited time for resource promotion are addressed through strategic use of the library blog and Subject Research Guides to spotlight specific resources throughout the year.

“Feedback from the session was positive, with staff showing an increased awareness around the availability and scope of our online resources.”



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For both staff and students searching across several different databases can be both confusing and time consuming. To help resolve this issue Edinburgh College incorporated Gale and other resources into their EDS. This not only gives staff and students a single search box to access a range of resources, but also introduces them to databases they may not have been aware of or considered using.

Keeping Students Informed:

Regular updates about newly available resources or updates are disseminated through the library website, Subject Research Guides, blog posts, and direct communication with lecturers.

Gathering Feedback:

Feedback from students is collected through various channels including session evaluations, 1-1 meetings, and surveys. Faculty feedback is obtained through ongoing discussions, collection reviews, and staff drop-ins.

Improving Usage:

Links to Gale resources are provided across multiple platforms including A-Z lists, LibGuides, and reading lists, tailored to specific courses and needs.

Through strategic collaboration, tailored communication, and targeted promotion efforts, Edinburgh College's library maximises the usage and impact of *Gale News, Business, and Reference* resources, enriching the learning and research experiences of its diverse student body.



For more information, please visit
gale.com/discovergnbr

