

Anatomy in the Library: Anatomical Models on Course Reserves

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BSCI201: Human Anatomy and Physiology I¹

BSCI201 is a popular class taught at the University of Maryland for non-Biological Sciences majors through the Biology department. The class focuses on the anatomy and physiology of the skeletal, muscular, neural, endocrine, and sensory systems. The course also has a lab component.

In Fall 2015, there were two lectures and 17 lab sections of the class with approximately 24 students in each section. Two professors were responsible for the different lecture sections. In Spring 2016, there was one lecture section and 16 lab sections with approximately 24 students in each section. Additionally in Spring 2016, a Science in the Evening section was taught of BSCI201, which enrolled 11 students.

Introduction of Models to EPSL

In Fall of 2015, UMD Life Sciences Librarian Jeremy Garritano was approached by a professor teaching BSCI201 that was interested in the Libraries hosting a couple of anatomical models to help students study for their exams and lab practicums. It was decided that these models would be placed on course reserves at the Engineering and Physical Sciences Library (EPSL), since this library was close to students classes and had longer hours than similar libraries.

Originally, EPSL received a partial skeleton, which included a torso and legs. The skeleton was mounted on a rolling stand. The skeleton was catalogued in Aleph as course reserve materials and a barcode was tied to the stand. Duplicate barcodes were printed and place at the service desk to make checking out the skeleton easier.

Later in the semester two muscle models were also added course reserves. These models were two miniature human figures with removable chests to show interior muscles. Again these items were added to Aleph as course reserves materials and barcodes were places on the base of the figures.

Table 1. Number of loans by item

	Fall 2015
Skeleton	23
Muscle Model 1	26
Muscle Model 2	19
	61

Promoting Models in the Library

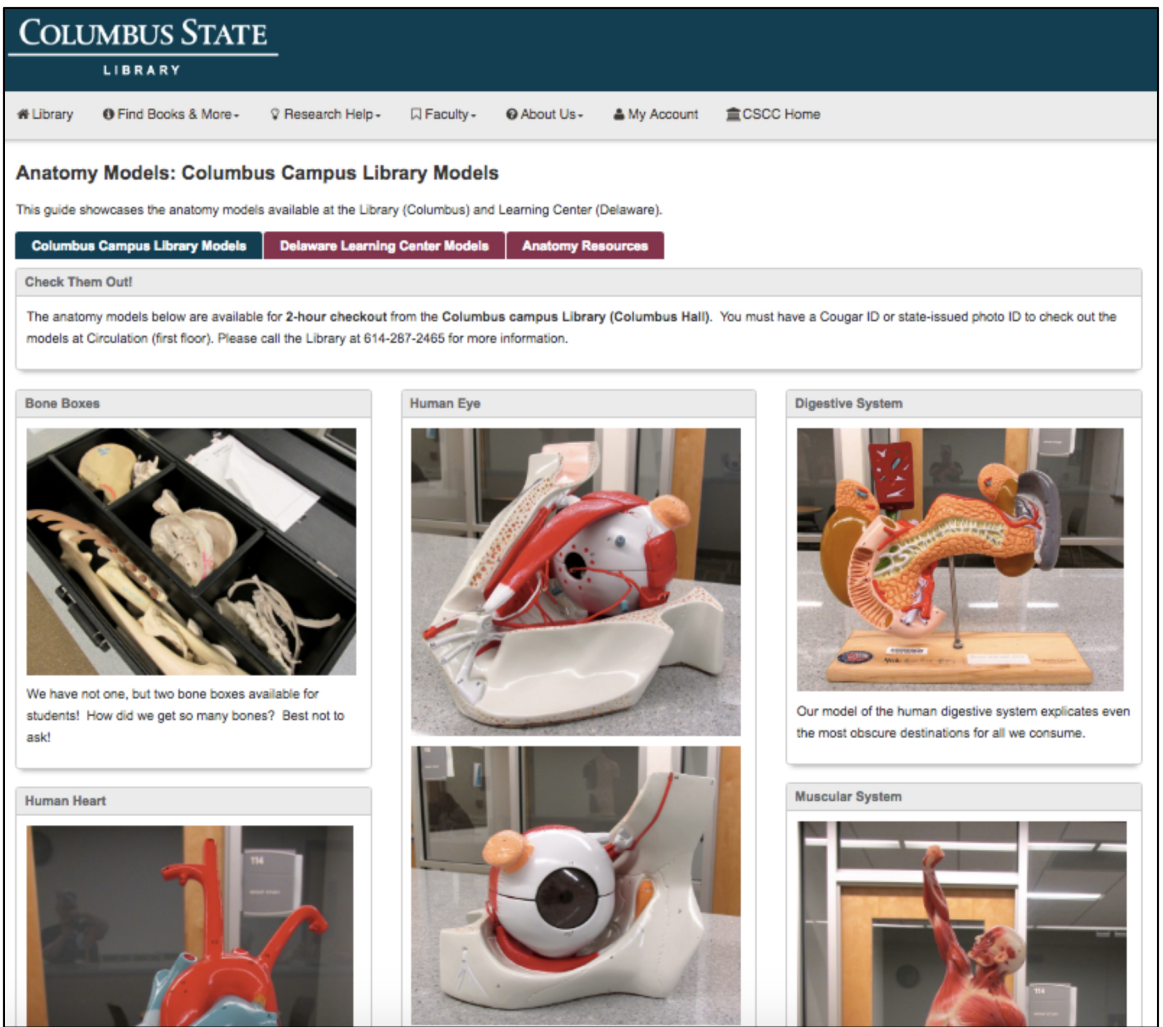
Anatomical models are found in many academic libraries and usually compliment public health or medical programs at these institutions. Unlike UMD, many of these institutions have medical schools, where anatomy is a required course, but other institutions included community college or smaller schools. Promoting these models is essential and information can be found on library websites and through social media.



University College of London School of Pharmacy Library promoting models through Twitter³



Promoting the models at EPSL through Twitter²



Columbus State Community College Library LibGuide for Anatomy Models⁴



Lessons Learned and Next Steps

- Like any other piece of equipment that circulates, the anatomical models will wear out and break, so it is important to have replacement parts or models.
- Partnerships should ideally be created at the program level and not be established with a specific professor, especially when professors change from semester to semester.
- Multiple models should be available so that students are not waiting to check out a specific model. Having only one skeleton limited the number of people who could use it at a time. However, students will use the models in small groups in the library.
- EPSL is hoping to acquire an Anatomage table, which can be used by students to learn anatomy and physiology.



Students and faculty using the Anatomage table at Stanford University.⁵

References

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