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What's a QR Code? by Amy Sullivan

You may have seen one of these and not known what it was. But the idea is catching on, and fast! A QR ("Quick Response") code is a mobile phone readable barcode that can contain alphanumeric text and often contains URLs that direct users to certain Websites. Decoding software, such as a QR reader on a mobile phone, interprets the codes. I have seen QR codes appear recently on Papa John's pizza boxes (when scanned, it directs you to the Papa John's Website), Heinz Ketchup bottles (leads you to a sweepstakes registration), and an Illinois state map (takes you to a touring Illinois Website). McDonald's restaurants in Japan are using QR codes on the sides of burger boxes which direct you to a web page displaying nutritional information. These codes can link to text, a phone number, or a URL/Website, including a Facebook page. Lots of companies are finding ways to use them, including educational institutions.

If you own a device capable of reading a QR code, such as a smartphone, you can see how easy they are to use. You can download one of many available

QR apps for free. Here are some of the top-rated **free** QR reader apps that we recommend: QR Reader for iPhone; RedLaser - Barcode Scanner and QR Code Reader; Scan; i-nigma QR Code, Data Matrix and 1D barcode reader; and QR Scanner. Once downloaded, the app is there whenever you need it to read a QR code. When you see one, open the app on your phone, hold it in front of the code so the camera can scan it, then wait to see what pops up.

We would like your input on QR codes, and whether you think they will be useful at Matheson Library. We are already brainstorming on the many ways we believe they can be used, both for fun and for learning. Please download one of the QR readers mentioned above to your mobile phone and scan the QR code on this page to take our survey. It only contains two questions, and won't take long. You can scan the code from a printed copy of this newsletter, or directly from your computer screen. You will also see a QR code on page 2 of this newsletter. I'm not going to tell you what this one is...but I *will* tell you it's related to a contest and you have a chance to **win a free book!**

Take our Survey!
Scan Code Below!



WKCTC is an equal opportunity employer and educational institution.

Get Your Library Card

Did you know your campus ID card functions as your library card? If you already have your campus ID, be sure to stop by the Matheson Library circulation desk to activate it in our system so that you can check out materials. If you have not had your ID made, you can do this at the Business Office located on the first floor of the Anderson Technical Building. They process IDs on Mondays and Tuesdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Your student ID can also be used to obtain [discounts](#) at several local restaurants and businesses. Faculty and staff can access their discount list through [the Point](#).

The library is still in the process of transitioning everyone to using their campus ID cards as their library cards.

However, if you have not had an opportunity to get an ID, **you are still able to check out materials at the library!** Just present a photo ID at the circulation desk and you can obtain a library card. If you have a library card that you acquired during a previous semester, we can renew it and make it active so that you can continue to check out materials. If you decide later to get your campus ID, we can activate that as your library card so that you only have to carry one multipurpose card.

Whatever route you choose, just remember, you do need a library card to check out materials. You may check out up to 10 items at a time. We hope to see you at the library soon!

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STUDENTS, VISIT THE LIBRARY DURING FINALS WEEK, DECEMBER 5-9, FOR CHRISTMAS, COFFEE, AND CANDY CANES!

Make Reading a Family Affair!

Mark your calendars for our upcoming family holiday reading event on Wednesday, November 23rd at 10 a.m. Librarian Amy Sullivan will read some Christmas favorites from our children's collection. Students, faculty, and staff are welcome to bring their children to this fun-filled event including Christmas cookies, reading, and fun activities for the whole family. Come celebrate happy "whooolidays" with Horton and the library staff!!

Contact
Matheson Library
@ 270-534-3197

Ken Bradshaw
Library Director
270-534-3169
ken.bradshaw@kctcs.edu



Horton says scan this to enter our November contest!

Fall 2011 Library Hours

Monday - Thursday
7:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Friday
7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Saturday (through December 5th)
12 noon - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday - Closed

In-Between Semesters

December 12-16, 2011
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Fall 2011 Semester Closures

Thanksgiving Holiday
November 24-26, 2011

Christmas Holiday
December 17-30, 2011

Off-Campus Database Access

Remember, you no longer have to have several different passwords to get into our online databases from off-campus, thanks to our new EZproxy server. But you need to be sure to access them the correct way. There are two routes you can take. You can go to our library home page, <http://www.westkentucky.kctcs.edu/Academics/Library.aspx> and click on the text beneath the photo of the woman shown here, which will prompt you to log in with your WKCTC user name and password. Or, you can click on "Find Articles" in the gold menu box on the left of the library home page, then click on the [blue "Off-](#)

[Campus Access](#)" link above the chart on that page, which will also prompt you to log in. If you simply click on one of the databases in the chart on that page, you will be asked to enter a password and will not be able to get into the database. You must go in through one of the methods just mentioned. It's "EZ" to use EZproxy, and we think you will find this to be the case! Call or e-mail us if you have any questions or problems.

