Search Digital Collections

This guide will demonstrate how to navigate Grand Valley State University Special Collections and University Archives’ digital collections.

Getting Started

Go to: https://digitalcollections.library.gvsu.edu/

Digital collections includes born-digital and digitized material from the collections housed in Special Collections and University Archives or from our digital project partnerships.

Searching

At the top of the page, there is a navigation bar with different choices for browsing, as well as a search bar if you’d like to begin by keyword searching.

Browsing

If you choose to browse by collection, you will see a thumbnail image to represent the collection contents, the collection title, a brief description, and a link to view more items.

- **WILLIAM JAMES COLLEGE INTERVIEWS**
  - Videotaped interviews of William James College faculty, students, and administrators by Barbara Roos.
  - William James College opened in 1973 as the third...
  - Contributors: Roos, Barbara (Interviewee)
  - View the Items in William James College Interviews

- **JOE OLEKA LETTERS**
  - Collection of letters between Joseph Oleka and Agnes Van Der Weele, dating from 1941 to 1946. Oleka fought in the U.S. Army 26th Infantry Division,...
  - View the Items in Joe Oleka letters

- **F. C. ANGUS COLLECTION**
  - Photographs of Sergeant F.C. Angus, Battery A 328th Field Artillery, American Express Forces, by D. J. Angus. The 328th Field Artillery was one of...
From the “Browse Collections” page, you can select the “View the Items” button. You will see a page of results, followed by the option to “Browse All Items”.

Beneath the “Browse All Items” option will be the Collection-level metadata. This metadata includes a description of the collection as a whole, as well as information such as collection title, creator, and relevant date spans.

Advanced Search
After you choose to browse, there will be a menu bar at the top of the page where you can either choose to “Browse All” or start a “New Search”.

BROWSE ITEMS (1489 TOTAL)

Collection: Grand Valley State University Photographs

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If you click “New Search”, you’ll open up an Advanced Search page.

From here, you can perform a standard keyword search.

Or, you can choose to search specifically within a collection.

Or by a particular content type (text, still image, moving picture, etc.)

**Item Level View**

Once you have selected an item to view, you’ll see the information relevant to that specific record.

There is a thumbnail preview image of the record.

Click the black bar beneath it to enlarge the item view.

Beneath the display image and/or PDF transcripts will be item-level metadata that describes this particular item within the collection.