



FR. VERSTRAETEN CENTRAL LIBRARY

USER'S GUIDE



Year: 1632



BEST PRACTICES

Open Access to Students

Self-Circulation Kiosk

Online Book Reservation

Online Book Renewal

Email Alerts (Issue/

Return/Fine)

Book Bank Facility

Institutional Repository

On/Off Campus

E-Resource Access

Single Window Search

State-of-the-art

Reading Rooms



Fr. Achilles Verstraeten, SJ



**FR. VERSTRAETEN
CENTRAL LIBRARY**
St. Xavier's College
(Autonomous), Kolkata



Reference Facility

Student Feedback

System

Institutional

Membership

(BCL, AL, NDL)

Lending Facility

Photocopy Facility

Free Book Distribution

Anti-Plagiarism Facility

Fire Alarm System

RFID Based Security

CCTV Surveillance

*"One Best Book is Equal to
Hundred Good Friends..
But One Good Friend is Equal
to a Library"*

Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam



St. Xavier's College (Autonomous)

30, Mother Teresa Sarani, Kolkata - 700 016



Central Library : Past View



Central Library : Present View



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Floor Plan

GROUND FLOOR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asst. Director's Office • Library Office • E-Resource Access Centre for Advanced Studies and Research • Library Lending Counter No.1 • Library Lending Counter No.2 • Library Lending Counter No.3 • Self-Circulation Kiosk • CD/DVDs Section • Library Reception • E-attendance System for Students • Biometric Attendance System for Staff • Property Counter • RFID enabled Gate Antenna • Book Binding Room • Students' Washroom • Purified Drinking Water Facility • Emergency Exit Door
1ST FLOOR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cubical Facility For Faculty Members • Dept. of Education Library & Reading Room • E-Resource Access Centre for OPAC Search & E-Resources • New Arrivals Display • Newspaper, Journal & Magazine Section • Rare Books Display • Reference Section • Reprography & Printing Section



Library Hours

Section	Timings	
	Monday - Friday	Saturday
Reference	8.00 A.M. – 6.00 P.M.	8.00 A.M. – 5.00 P.M.
Lending	9.00 A.M. – 6.00 P.M.	9.00 A.M. – 5.00 P.M.
Library Office	9.00 A.M. – 5.00 P.M.	9.00 A.M. – 12.30 P.M.
Reprography	9.30 A.M. – 12.30 P.M.	-----
E-Resource Access Centre	9.00 A.M. – 5.00 P.M.	9.00 A.M. – 12.30 P.M.
E-Book Library	8.00 A.M. – 6.00 P.M.	8.00 A.M. – 5.00 P.M.



Best Practices

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ■ Open Access to Students | ■ Reference Facility |
| ■ Self-Circulation Kiosk | ■ Student Feedback System |
| ■ Online Book Reservation | ■ Institutional Membership |
| ■ Online Book Renewal | ■ (BCL, AL, NDL) |
| ■ Email Alerts (Issue/Return/Fine) | ■ Lending Facility |
| ■ Book Bank Facility | ■ Photocopy Facility |
| ■ Institutional Repository | ■ Free Book Distribution |
| ■ On/Off Campus E-Resource Access | ■ Anti-Plagiarism Facility |
| ■ Single Window Search | ■ Fire Alarm System |
| ■ State-of-the-art Reading Rooms | ■ RFID Based Security |
| | ■ CCTV Surveillance |



Membership

Students, Research Scholar, Faculty Members, Fathers and Support Staff of St. Xavier's College can enjoy our library facilities. Ex-Students / Faculty/ Staff, Alumni/nae, of the college are also eligible for getting membership (Only Reference Section) subject to prior approval of the head of the institution.



Borrowing Privileges

Patron Category	No of Items	Loan Period
Faculty Members	08 Books	30 Days
Support Staff	03 Books	30 Days
Research Scholar	08 Books	30 Days
Students (UG & PG)	04 Books	14 Days



Infrastructure

- Self-Circulation Kiosk:** Central Library implemented Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) enabled kiosk. This latest technology is being used to automate book handling process including book circulation and inventory management.
- Anti-theft Gate Antenna:** RFID technology helps to alert the library security staff in case of any unintentional activity of not following the proper procedure of book issue/return.
- Lending Counter:** To expand the physical space of the central library a mezzanine floor has been built in the Lending Section of the library in 2017 which fetches a picturesque view of the Lending Section.
- Uniform Rack System:** Library Service is under the purview of Service Sector. So to make the service qualitative physical appearance plays a vital role. Considering this, a uniform rack system has been installed in the library. Previously books were kept in shelves not uniform in design, now this is changed to a uniform rack system.



Past View



Present View

- **Server Machine:** Two server machines (installed at the Server Room on the 1st floor) are available 24x7, one for running library automation software KOHA and maintaining institutional repository DSpace; another for execution of e-attendance software along with e-book access management software.
- **Book Binding Section:** At the ground floor one room with book binding tools are there to work for bindery.
- **Reprography:** One photocopy machine (installed at the Server Room on the 1st floor) is available for providing reprography and printing facilities.
- **CCTV Camera:** For better surveillance 42 CCTV cameras have been installed inside and outside the library. These are operational 24x7.
- **Water Filter:** One high-flow water purifier is kept for safe drinking water facility.
- **Fire Extinguisher:** For library safety and security nineteen fire extinguisher cylinders are kept in different sections inside the library.
- **Cubicle for E-Resource Access:** Six internet enabled terminals are available for accessing e-resources both subscribed and open sources, semester question papers and also for searching OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue).
- **Cubicle for Faculty Advanced Studies and Research:** One cubicle equipped with internet facility is available for faculty members for their advanced studies and research.



- **E-Resource Access Section for Advanced Studies & Research:** Fr. Verstraeten Central Library E-Resource Centre for Advanced Studies and Research is a newly developed state-of-the-art E-Resource Library equipped with twenty five tabs.



- **Wi-Fi facility:** Library premises are Wi-Fi enabled and fully air conditioned.
- **Computerised Attendance System:** Browser based attendance software for counting footfalls at the reception counter.



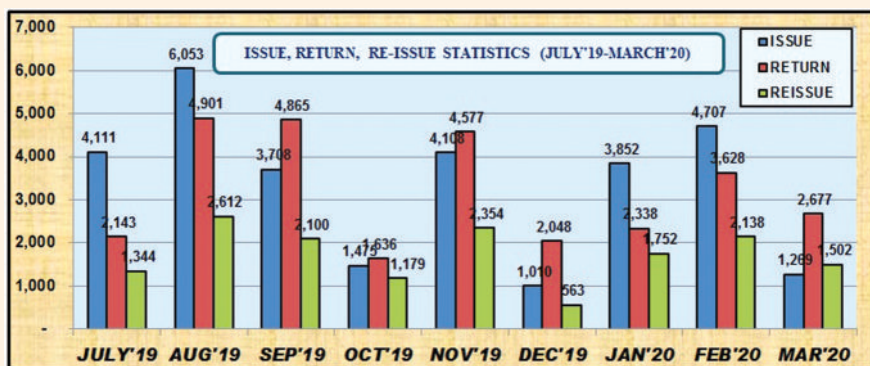
From Manual Attendance Register



To Computerised Attendance System



Library Usage Statistics



Issue, Re-Issue, Return Statistics (July'19-March'20)



Facilities and Services

1. Library Catalogue Access through Web OPAC

Library operations are fully automated using open source software Koha (Ver:16.05) and an online catalogue for the entire holdings of books, CD/DVDs, Reports etc is accessible (24x7) within the library premises as well as outside the campus from the library website at www.sxccal.edu

How to use Web OPAC:

Go to College website (www.sxccal.edu) and click 'Library' then click 'Web OPAC' where user can find the single window search interface.

To start OPAC search, first select Fr. Verstraeten Central Library or any other branch library as per requirement from the drop down menu. Now users can search for their required document. The explanation of location indicators are shown below.



	Location Indicator	Section to which concerned book belongs to
1	R	Central Library Reading Room
2	ED	Department of Education
3	ED(R)	Dept. of Education Reading Room
4	EM	Electronic Material (CD-ROM / DVD-ROM)
5	EM(R)	Electronic Material (CD-ROM / DVD-ROM) Ref. Sec
6	BB	Book Bank
7.	Thesis	Research Purpose

The class number denotes the subject area to which the concerned book belongs. The book number has two parts, the first part denotes first three alphabets of the author's surname, and the second part title indicator contain first three alphabets of the title of the book excluding article, i.e. (A), (An) and (The).

2. My Library

Go to college website (www.sxccal.edu) and click '**Library**' then **Central Library** and click '**My Library**' where you can find the login portal.

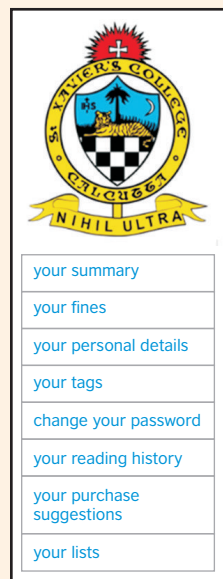
Login to your account with Your College CIN No. Login ID: (eg. 16-500-5-07-0000) and the password. (The default password is: 12345 but we request you to change the password as soon as possible to avoid misuse).

From the 'my summary' tab, user will see all of the items they have checked out with the overdue items highlighted in red. User will be able to renew their issued books from the OPAC **before due date**. If any fine is there it will be shown in the 'Fines' column.

Patrons can view their personal details by clicking on the 'my personal details' tab. Patrons can edit their details in this form and click 'Submit Changes'.

The Reading History tab reveals entire check out history of the patron. User can sort by date or title to view Checkout history.

Patrons can make purchase suggestions for the library books from your purchase suggestions tab.



3. Online Books Reservation

Users can reserve books which are already on loan and when it becomes available users will be informed through e-mail for collection of the reserved book.

4. Book Bank Facility

The students belonging to non-creamy layer of the society can issue at most four books from book-bank for a full semester along with regular library facilities.

St Xavier's College (Autonomous)
Fr. Verstraeten Central Library
30 Mother Teresa Sarani, Kolkata -700 016
Phone No: 22551-252
Book Bank Application Form

*Name of the Student: Arjun Kumar Mishra
*Roll No.: 61
*Department: B.COM (H)
*Semester: First

5. Free Book Distribution Service

Old edition books are distributed among the interested students on first come first serve basis.



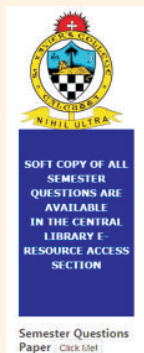
6. Services for Ex-Student, Alumni/nae

The ex-students of the college can enjoy reading room facility subject to approval from the authority.

7. Semester Question Paper

For accessing previous semester question paper visit college website (www.sxccal.edu) and click on **'Library'**, then click **'Web OPAC'** where user can find the following search interface.

This facility is available only from library E-Resource Access Section within 9AM to 4 PM (Mon-Fri)



8. E-Book Access from E-Resource Centre for Advanced Studies and Research

Fr. Verstraeten Central Library E-Resource Centre for Advanced Studies and Research is a newly developed state-of-the-art E-Resource Library. Student can access the facility via college intranet with the help of tabs, smart phones,



and other devices. The students/ staff should collect their Wi-Fi login name and password from the computer centre and after login to the Wi-Fi network of the college under SXC-STUDENT Wi-Fi. Then they have to open any search engine i.e. Google or Google Chrome or Safari or Explorer and type this link [http:// 10.10.26.125:200](http://10.10.26.125:200) to have a look on the e-books which are arranged subject wise.

9. Reprography Service

Reprographic facility is available for the students and faculty members at a very nominal rate of Re.1/- per one A4 size impression (for photocopy) and Rs.2/- only per one A4 size page (for print out). This section remains open from 9.00 A.M. to 4.00 P.M. (Monday to Friday).



- The photocopy can be taken only from library reference books, journals and question papers.
- Time for placing photocopy requisition: 9.30 A.M. to 12.30 P.M. at the library office.
- Maximum twenty pages can be photocopied at a time.
- Articles in the newspapers can also be photocopied. Cost per single side impression is Rs. 3/- only.

10. Career Guidance

Books related to General Knowledge, NET/SET, different competitive examinations like Bank P.O., Railways, GMAT, CAT, SAT, CLAT, etc. are also available for reference purpose .



11. New Arrivals Display

Newly arrived books are displayed for 2 weeks in the Reference Section.

12. Newspapers' Corner

SXC CL subscribes 10 newspapers (English=7, Bengali=2, Hindi=1). User can also access softcopy from the link <https://www.sxccal.edu/e-resources/>



13. Periodical Section

145+ periodicals are subscribed for library reference section. User can also access softcopy from the link <https://www.sxccal.edu/e-resources/>. In-house publications are also available in this section.



14. Audio Visual Section

Audio visual materials such as CD, DVDs are also available in the Reference as well as Lending Section.



15. Self-Circulation Service

RFID enabled self-circulation kiosk would allow the users to utilise self-issue and reissue service without standing in queue. When books are borrowed, an auto generated 'checkout' slip comes out from the machine, giving details of the borrower and the issued/ re-issued books and the 'due date of return' etc. Using the kiosk one could also check their account status –books details in their accounts and pending overdue charges, if any.



16. Lending Facility

Students can borrow utmost four

books, CD/DVDs at a time for fourteen days, with their valid own ID card which are further renewable for fourteen days (except in special cases). Online renewal can also be done from library website with this link <http://115.243.61.182:8001/>



17. Reference Facility

Open Access system is followed in the Reference Section. There are two state-of-the-art reading rooms with a seating capacity of 250 users. The reference



books are used only inside the reading rooms by the students for their study and research.

18. Rare Documents

The library of the college holds a golden treasury of very old and rare documents due to donations of books to the library by the provincial governments and European missionaries during the last two centuries. The documentary heritage is continuously decaying with time towards extinction, which is our national cultural loss. There is an urgent need of proper conservation

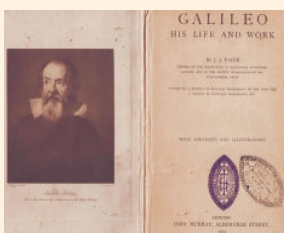


Year : 1632

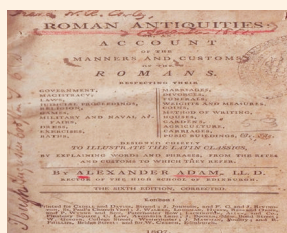
and preservation of documentary heritage of the college. A project on preservation and conservation of rare documents was undertaken by the college to prevent this loss with the full financial support from UNESCO; which was started on 12th December, 2006. The oldest collection dates back to AD 1632. To conclude the project, a set of 4 DVDs containing some of the digitized documents and rare painting was published.



Year : 1879



Year : 1903



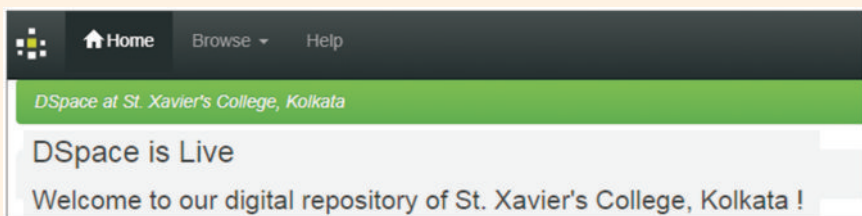
Year : 1807

19. Library Feedback Facility

Library users may share their thoughts and ideas to help the library authority for better library services at: librarian@sxccal.edu, principal@sxccal.edu and also in the following web link <https://www.sxccal.edu/feedback/>

20. Institutional Repository

In house publications of the college are preserved in the repository with the use of DSpace software. For accessing the resources use this link <http://115.243.61.182:8080/jspui/>



21. Property Counter

The property counter is located at the entrance of the library. All the users are requested to keep their bags without any valuable property (Mobile Phone, Money Purse etc.) at the property counters before entering into the library.

22. Group Study

Two group study cubicles on the first floor are available for group discussion and presentation. One cubicle located in between two reference sections for students and another one for faculty and research scholars beside the reprography section. The cubicles are well equipped with computers and internet facility.

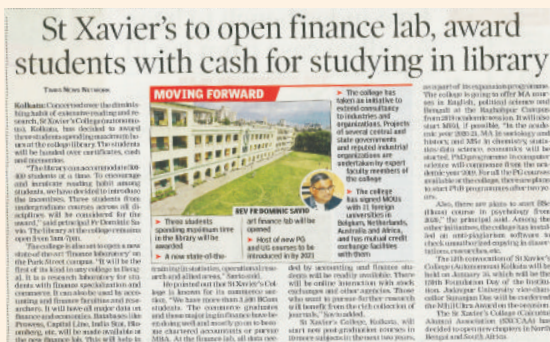


23. Research Tools

As per the recommendation from NAAC Peer Team for anti-plagiarism software to check on plagiarism and also to comply with the UGC (Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2018 *iThenticate* from Turnitin (USA) has been introduced. Research scholars and faculty members can access this facility only for their research purpose and academic publication.

24. E-Attendance

Students must scan their college ID card to the e-attendance system at the reception counter during entry and exit time. On the basis of the time spent in reading at the library users are awarded.



25. Ask A Librarian

If you have any query regarding library services please feel free to contact us in person, over the telephone (22551-251) or email at librarian@sxccal.edu. Library staff will be very happy to assist you in making the best use of resources to support your academic study and research work.



Library Collection

Overview of Printed Books & Journals as on 30-04-2022

	Central Library	Department of Education	Ragavpur Campus	Total
Total No. of Library Holdings	67,368	9,409	10,204	86,981
No. of books in Lending section	49,518	4,112	8,182	61,812
No. of books in Reading section	16,779	4,902	1,880	23,561
No. of books in Book Bank section	808	395	57	1,260
No. of periodicals	145	7	0	152
No. of CDs/DVDs	753	24	85	862
No. of Reports	173	0	0	173
No. of Newspapers	10	2	3	15



Online Databases & Electronic Journals



INFLIBNET-NLIST :

Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET) Centre is an autonomous

Inter-University Centre of the University Grants Commission (UGC) of India. It was initiated by

The screenshot displays the NLIST (National Library and Information Service) website. It features a navigation bar with links like HOME, ABOUT, MEMBERS, REGISTER, and RESOURCES. Below the navigation bar, there are sections for 'FOR PRESENT RELATED SERVICES' and 'FOR ACCESS RELATED SERVICES'. A 'COLLEGE ADMINISTRATOR' section is also visible. The 'SUMMARY STATISTICS' section shows 3454 branches, 358292 total books, and 46109 users. The 'TOP 10 ONLINE USERS' section lists various colleges and their user counts. The 'WHAT'S NEW' section mentions a new website launch.

the UGC in March 1991 as a project under the IUCAA and became an independent Inter-University Centre in June 1996. It provides links to JStor, Shodhganga and many other e-resources.



JSTOR : Access to JStor is provided through INFLIBNET and hence can be logged-in only through INFLIBNET.



DOAJ : Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) is a community-curated online directory that indexes and provides access to innumerable high quality, open access, peer-reviewed journals.



IndiaStat : IndiaStat serves as an authentic and perhaps the most comprehensive compilation of secondary level socio-economic statistical information about India and its states on various socio-economic parameters.



DELNET : Millions of networked library resources are accessible from this network.



Indian Academy of Sciences : The Indian Academy of Sciences, founded in 1934 by Professor C.V. Raman, Nobel Laureate, endeavours to promote the progress and uphold the cause of science, both in pure and applied branches. It publishes many science journals that can be accessed here.



CMIE-Prowess IQ : Prowess is the largest database of the financial performance of Indian companies. Annual Reports of individual companies are available from this database.



Economic Outlook : It provides economic forecasts and insights with real time analysis of data releases and copious indicator data.



Down to Earth : An environmental journal from Centre for Science and Environment that brings news, perspectives and knowledge to prepare for change in the way we manage our environment.



National Digital Library of India : Ministry of Human Resource Development under its National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology has initiated the National Digital Library (NDL) pilot project to develop a framework of virtual repository of learning resources with a single-window search facility. It is being developed to help students to prepare for entrance and competitive examination, to enable people to learn and prepare from best practices from all over the world and to facilitate researchers to perform inter-linked exploration from multiple sources.



The Economist : The Economist offers authoritative insight and opinion on international news, politics, business, finance, science, technology and the connections between them.



Time : Time is an American weekly news magazine published in New York City. A European edition is published in London and also covers the Middle East, Africa and Latin America.



AIMS International Journal of Management : The journal provides an international forum for discussion of advancements in management including accounting, marketing, finance, organizational behaviour, human resource management, management information systems, quantitative methods, quality management, operations management, economics, entrepreneurship, business ethics, strategy, etc.



Open Source For You : Open Source For You (OSFY) is a complete magazine on open source, and is today a big hit with those who love FOSS (Free and Open Source Software). OSFY carries tech articles on Linux and open source for newbies, administrators, developers and fans of open source. Its main objective, however, is to help organisations

enhance their Return-on-Investment (RoI) by deploying Linux or open source solutions, strategy, etc.



Harvard Business Review : HBR's articles cover a wide range of topics that are relevant to various industries, management functions, and geographic locations. These focus on areas including leadership, organizational change, negotiation, strategy, operations, marketing, finance, and managing people.

The Wall Street Journal : The Wall Street Journal is an American business-focused English-language international daily newspaper based in New York City. The Journal, along with its Asian and European editions, is published six days a week by Dow Jones & Company, a division of News Corp.



The Hindu and The Hindu Business Line: E-versions of the Hindu and the Hindu Business Line are available dealing with financial, political and social news.



Sage Journals: Major subject areas are Management, Social Sciences, etc.



Oxford e-books: Major subject areas are Economics, Physics, Sociology, Management, Mathematics, Biotechnology, etc.



Pearson e-books: Major subject areas are Sociology, Political Science, Chemistry, Physics, Computer Science, Mathematics, IAS Exam, etc.



ProQuest One Literature:

ProQuest One Literature is the premier online resource for English literature research. Primary texts, criticism, and reference works are made available in a tailor made research environment to provide a one-stop resource for the study and teaching of English literature.

Institutional Membership: National Digital Library (NDL), British Council Library(BCL), American Library (AL).

E-Books with remote access facility

E-Books from Oxfordscholarshiponline

(<https://www.universitypressscholarship.com/>)

E-Books from Pearson

(<https://sxckolkata.ebookcentral.proquest.com/libCentral/Login.aspx>)

Besides these, a host of e-books and e-journals from other databases like ProQuest, Delnet, NLIST, and NDL are also accessible to the individual patrons.

Below is a list (not exhaustive) of such e-books:

ECONOMICS		
SL NO.	ISBN	TITLE
1	9780191808616	The Economics and Politics of Climate Change
2	9780191783081	International Trade and Economic Development
3	9780199080472	Agrarian Crisis in India
4	9780199080649	Eight Lectures on India's Economic Reforms
5	9780191738371	Climate Change and Common Sense
PHYSICS		
1	9780191794278	Theoretical Physics to Face the Challenge of LHC
2	9780191772368	Nonlinear Optics and Photonics
3	9780191722851	Atomic Force Microscopy
4	9780191767852	Graphene
BIOTECHNOLOGY		
1	9780191717512	Observing Animal Behaviour
2	9780199893935	The Microbial Models of Molecular Biology
3	9780199893416	Three-Dimensional Electron Microscopy of Macromolecular Assemblies
4	9780191706295	Macromolecular Crystallography
5	9780191720666	Conservation Biology for All
MATHEMATICS		
1	9780191717567	Category Theory
2	9780191774911	Differential Geometry
3	9780191774874	Riemann Surfaces
4	9780191716010	The Many Facets of Geometry
5	9780191708725	Algebraic and Geometric Surgery
BUSINESS MANAGEMENT		
1	9780199868025	The Digital Hand, Volume 3
2	9780199789672	The Digital Hand, Volume 1
3	9780199789689	The Digital Hand, Volume 2
4	9780191718588	The Making of Modern Management
5	9780191721359	Corporate Governance and Managerial Reform in Japan



The Class Numbers of Some Subjects

Subject	Class No
Accountancy	657 - 657.9
Advertising	659
Astrophysics	520-529
Auditing	657-657.9
Bengali Drama	891.442
Bengali Essays	891.444
Bengali Fiction	891.443
Bengali Literature	891.44
Bengali Poetry	891.441
Biochemistry	572
Biography	920 - 929
Chemistry	540 – 549
Computer Science	002 – 007
Costing	657 – 657.9
E-Business	380 – 382
Ecology	577
E-Commerce	380 – 382
Economics	330-339
Education	370-379
Electronics	621-622
English Drama Collection	822.008
English Drama	822
English Essays	824
English Fiction	823
English Fiction Collection	823.008
English Fiction Criticism	823.009
English Literature	820-820.9
English Poetry Criticism	821.009
English Poetry Collection	821.008
English Poetry	821
Environmental Science	333-333.9
Film Studies	791-792
Folklore	398
General Encyclopaedia	030
General Knowledge	001-001.9
General Literature	800-809
General Science	500-509

Subject	Class No
Genetics	576
Hindi Drama	891.432
Hindi Essays	891.434
Hindi Fiction	891.433
Hindi Literature	891.43
Hindi Poetry	891.431
History	930-999
Indian History, Ancient	934
Indian History, Medieval	954
International Relations	327
Journalism	070-079
Language and Linguistics	400-499
Law	340-349
Macroeconomics	339
Management	658
Mass Communication	302
Mathematics	510-519
Microbiology	579
Microeconomics	338.5
Music	780
Performing Arts	700 – 799
Philosophy	100-199
Photography	779
Physics	530-539
Political Science	320-329
Psychology	150-159
Public Administration	350-353
Religion	200-299
Social Work	361-362
Sociology	361-365
Sociology	300-309
Sports	793-799
Statistics	519.2-519.5
Tax	336-336.9
Theatre	792
Trade	380-382
Travel	910-919
Yearbook, Directory	050
Zoology	590

Annexure 1 : Certificate - NAAC



Annexure 2 : Certificate - ISO 9001:2015



Annexure 3 : Certificate - NIRF



CONTACT NUMBERS:

Librarian: 033-22551-251

Library Office: 033-22551-238

Library Entrance: 033-22551-241

Library Lending: 033-22551-247 / 253

Library Reading: 033-22551-252 / 255

E-mail: librarian@sxccal.edu



1st Row - Left to Right :

Prof. Dr. Amitava Roy (Dean, Commerce - Morning), Rev. Fr. Peter Arockiam, SJ, (Vice-Principal, Commerce - Evening), Rev. Dr. Dominic Savio, SJ, (Principal & Director), Rev. Fr. Joseph Kulandai, SJ, (Vice-Principal, Commerce - Morning & Asst. Director, Central Library), Dr. Chinmay Mukhopadhyay (Librarian)

2nd Row - Left to Right :

Mr. Jaideep Biswas, Mr. Pintu Bagh, Mrs. Jhunu Chatterjee, Mrs. Teresa Champa Gomes, Mr. Asish Sardar, Ms. Krishna Sardar

3rd Row - Left to Right :

Mr. Sougata Chattopadhyay, Ms. Jayati Adhya, Mrs. Soma Halder, Mr. Arup Sarkar, Mr. Joseph Kinkor Mondal, Mr. Prodip Mondal, Mr. Gabriel Subir Bar

4th Row - Left to Right :

Mr. Kishan Mardi, Mr. Nasir Gazi

Commerce student tops honours list with seven hours of reading a day

Xavier's to reward library regulars

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Park Street: Three undergraduate students of St Xavier's College will receive awards for putting in more library hours a day than anyone else in an unannounced contest that aims to incentivise the dying habit of reading and researching the old-fashioned way.

"The awards have been instituted to encourage our students to spend more time in the library," Father Dominic Savio, the principal of St Xavier's College (Autonomous), Calcutta, said on Tuesday.

Chandra Roy, a BCom student in the morning section, has been adjudged first for spending around seven hours a day in the college library. Chandra would attend lectures for five hours every working day and spend another seven hours on an average reading in the library.

Arghyamalya Biswas, a student of statistics, and Manali Mondal of the political science department finished second and third respectively with around six hours in the library every day. This is in addition to attending lectures for five hours, as is the norm at St Xavier's.

The awards will be given



One of the revamped reading rooms on the first floor of St Xavier's College; (below) the library on the ground floor of the same building. Pictures by Sanjoy Chatteropadhyaya

away at the convocation scheduled for January 16.

Teachers across institutions lament that students no longer want to spend time studying in libraries. The trend isn't different at St Xavier's, although academic standards remain high.

"Nowadays, very few people spend much time in the library. So, when we found these three students putting in hours in the library, we decided to reward them. Our intention is to encourage other students to do the same and regenerate interest in reading," the principal said.

The revamped library at St Xavier's remains open from 7am till 7pm on weekdays. At a certain time of day, the library



is packed. But most students

read there only for a while. "We want to generate the inclination among students to use the library facility as much as possible, just as these three students did," Father Savio

said.

The project to revamp the library and make it more attractive to students was an extension of the initiative to rekindle interest in reading.

A veteran librarian wel-

comed the decision by St Xavier's to introduce an incentive to read in the library as "a good move". But he said this needs to be complemented by other steps such as designing courses in a way that students are compelled to do library work.

"Students will not go to the libraries if they can manage without doing additional reading. Therefore, the curriculum should be such that they have to do library work. Faculty members must demand that this be done," said the expert, who has worked in libraries across reputable institutions such as Harvard, the State University of New York in Buffalo and the University of California, Santa Cruz.

The Telegraph - 09-01-2019



Student Receiving 'Top Library User Award'

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