



INSIDE THE CLARION UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES



November 23, 2015

Volume 11, Number 14

In This Issue

- Thanksgiving Break Hours
- The CU Libraries Are Closed?
- What Is *Dissertations & Theses (ProQuest)?*
- Library Tip: Research Guides & Tutorials
- The S.W.A.T. Minion's Tip: *Driver Updating Utilities Are Worse Than Useless*
- Cranial Candy: Word Of The Week ... *offal*
- Something To Think About

CU Libraries' Links:

Inside The Clarion University Libraries
Read back issues of the Libraries' newsletter

We publish *INSIDE The CU Libraries* weekly, when classes are in session. Here we share information about our services and resources with the campus community. Current and back issues are available online through the NEWS link on the [Libraries' homepage](#).

Thanksgiving Break Hours



With Friday classes meeting Tuesday and no classes being taught on Wednesday, Carlson and Suhr Libraries will operate with special hours:

Carlson Library

Tuesday	November 24	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday	November 25	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Thursday – Saturday	November 26 - 28	Closed
Sunday	November 29	1:00 p.m. – midnight

Suhr Library

Tuesday	November 24	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday	November 25	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Thursday – Sunday	November 26 - 29	Closed

Don't forget that many of our information resources are available at the [Libraries](#) website and various tutorials and resource lists are accessible there too.

Library Home

Your link to all of the Libraries' resources

PILOT

Search the Libraries' online catalog

Databases A-Z

Search the Libraries' extensive collection of electronic journals and e-books

Contact Us

Dr. Terry Latour
Dean of Libraries

The CU Libraries Are Closed?



If you need help when the library is closed, we have got it covered. Clarion University Libraries have made arrangements for librarians at a consortium of universities to do what they can to help you. They do not know your courses, assignments or professors, but they will do all that they can to help you find the resources you need.

At the [Clarion University Libraries](#) Website click on the "Chat Live With a Librarian" link located in the green box near the center of the screen. If a Clarion Reference Librarian is unavailable and you need answers **now**, click the link to talk with a librarian from another school.

The link will take you to the [Ask Here PA](#) Website where you can follow the instructions and link to a college librarian elsewhere, even on nights and weekends. This service is provided by the State Library of Pennsylvania and is funded by Pennsylvania tax dollars.

What Is Dissertations & Theses (ProQuest)?



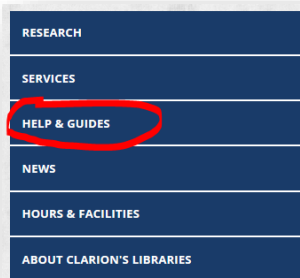
[Dissertations & Theses \(ProQuest\)](#) is a comprehensive collection of scholarly research dissertations and theses submitted by doctoral and master's degree students from around the world. They date from 1743 to the present day, offering full-text for graduate works added since 1997, along with selected full-text for works written prior to 1997. More than a million titles are available in

electronic full-text form.

Dissertations and Theses is available through the [Libraries Homepage](#). In the "Research Resources" block, click on the [Databases](#) link, then scroll down the alphabetical list or use the link to jump to the "D" section of databases.

If you have questions or need assistance, stop by the libraries or call Carlson Library at 393-2490, Suhr Library at 676-6591 or Clarion Online distance education students may call toll-free at 866-272-5612, (press 5 for Library). Our Chat and other online services are available at the [Ask a Librarian! / LibAnswers!](#) link on our Website.

Library Tip: Research Guides & Tutorials



With crunch time approaching and late work hours a necessity, don't forget to take advantage of the dozens of research [guides](#), resource lists, and how-to-do-it [tutorials](#) available at the [Libraries](#) Website.

Check-out the links at the ["Help and Guides"](#) section of our Website. You'll find a wealth of helpful information that should make your research and writing easier.

The S.W.A.T. Minion's Tip: Driver-Updating Utilities Are Worse Than Useless!



You may have seen advertisements for a "Driver Update Utility." There are also ads for PC cleaners, registry cleaners, game boosters, and all sorts of other utilities that do not actually do anything besides try to make money from you and install garbage onto your PC.

The folks at [howtogeek.com](#) installed DriverUpdate from [driverupdate.net](#) so you do not have to – really, do not try this at home.

The program starts out claiming to be a "Microsoft Gold Certified Partner." This does not actually mean Microsoft has placed their stamp of approval on this utility. It then attempts to install other junk software you will not want.

After installation, DriverUpdate ran a scan and informed them that the computer had 14 out-of-date drivers, many of which are considered "ancient." This is on a fresh Windows 8.1 system — installed just a few months previous — with the latest drivers available from the manufacturer's website at the time. There is no possible way that "ancient" drivers from 2006 were installed.

The tool wants you to pay \$30 a year to "Fix current device driver problems," "Benefit from new driver features," and "Prevent future system problems." It is very unlikely any driver will offer new features, and it is very unlikely your current drivers could cause "future system problems."

This is all designed to convince you to pay that \$30 — and that "Microsoft Gold Certified Partner" logo there is designed to make the program seem more legitimate than it actually is.

Some reviews on [Download.com](#) allege that if you actually pay \$30, you will receive a phone call from customer service informing you that they found problems on your computer during the driver update scan. For just a few hundred more dollars, you can have them fixed! Basically...it is the Windows tech support phone call scam, but they're only going after people who have already proven they'll spend money for questionable software.

Other people report crashes and blue-screens after installing updated drivers from this application — not a huge surprise.

Another driver-updating utility named "Driver Support" uses the same business model, charging \$30 a year for driver updates. It is even more ridiculous — it says the computer's "Driver Health Is Low!" To fix this, update the "HID-compliant

mouse" driver. This is a standard type of hardware — you should never need to update this basic mouse driver - it is included in Windows.

You Don't Need to Update Your Drivers, Anyway

Here's the thing — you don't actually need to regularly update your drivers. If you play PC games, you do need to update your NVIDIA or AMD graphics drivers regularly — but that is it. Both NVIDIA and AMD include automatic driver-updating tools along with the graphics drivers to make this easy.

Driver updates occasionally arrive via Windows Update, so a serious problem will be fixed just by installing your normal updates. Windows also automatically downloads the necessary drivers when you connect new hardware. Hardware driver-updating utilities would be a waste of time even if they worked properly.

Remember that PC cleaners, Mac cleaners, registry cleaners, system optimization utilities, and all the other sketchy PC maintenance software you see advertised on the web are all about *scaring* you. Once you are scared, you will pay up for their useless service.

Cranial Candy: Word Of The Week



offal

PRONUNCIATION:

OFF ull

(Depending on where you are from, you could say this exactly like "awful.")

MEANING:

This word looks like "off fall" because offal is the bits and pieces that fall off of something. In other words, offal is **the waste, the crumbs, or the little leftover pieces of stuff that you do not need.**

Figuratively, offal is **useless stuff, worthless stuff, or garbage.**

USAGE:

Be careful when you call things or people offal--it's like comparing them to the parts of a slaughtered animal that may or may not even get eaten, or, less disgustingly, it's like comparing them to the little crumbly eraser bits that you have to wipe off your paper.

So, talk about the offal of society, all the offal cluttering up the Internet or the television networks, political offal, verbal offal, the offal of the self-publishing industry, etc.

If you need a particularly insulting term for someone who accepts or consumes nonsense or garbage, you might use "offal-eater," keeping in mind that it is a *very* harsh insult (and one that I would personally avoid.) Pigs and other animals that eat whatever garbage or leftovers we give them are literal offal-eaters, but figurative offal-eaters will accept any moral, cultural, literary, artistic, political, or intellectual trash they are given.

Although we do not "repair" computers, the **S.W.A.T. Team** (Students **W**ho **A**ssist [with] **T**echnology) on Level A of Carlson Library is always happy to help. Having an issue? Let us take a *swat* at it!

Something To Think About:



*Piglet noticed that
even though he had a Very Small Heart,
it could hold a rather large amount
of Gratitude.*

~ A.A. Milne ~