



# Exploring Digital Libraries: Foundations, Practice, Prospects

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## Description

A landmark textbook on digital libraries for LIS students, educators and practising information professionals throughout the world. Exploring Digital Libraries is a highly readable, thought-provoking authoritative and in-depth treatment of the digital library arena that provides an up-to-date overview of the progress, nature and future impact of digital libraries, from their collections and technology-centred foundations over two decades ago to their emergent, community-centred engagement with the social web. This essential textbook:

- Brings students and working librarians up to date on the progress, nature and impact of digital libraries, bridging the gap since the publication of the best-known digital library texts
- Frames digital library research and practice in the context of the social web and makes the case for moving beyond collections to a new emphasis on libraries' value to their communities
- Introduces several new frameworks and novel syntheses that elucidate digital library themes, suggest strategic directions, and break new ground in the digital library literature.
- Calls a good deal of attention to digital library research, but is written from the perspective of strategy and in-depth experience
- Provides a global perspective and integrates material from many sources in one place - the chapters on open repositories and hybrid libraries draw together past, present and prospective work in a way that is unique in the literature.

Readership: Exploring Digital Libraries suits the needs of a range of readers, from working librarians and library leaders to LIS students and educators, or anyone who wants a highly readable and thought-provoking overview of the field and its importance to the future of libraries.

## Contents

1. Emergence and definitions of digital libraries
2. Outcomes of digital libraries' first decade
3. Key themes and challenges in digital libraries
4. Digital Library Collections: Repositories
5. Hybrid Libraries
6. Social Roles of Digital Libraries
7. Digital Libraries and their Communities
8. The Prospects of Open Access Repositories
9. Digital Libraries and the Social Web: Scholarship
10. Digital Libraries and the Social Web: Collections and Platforms.

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**Author**

**Karen Calhoun** B.A., M.S., M.B.A. is an internationally respected librarian and change leader who is currently at the University of Pittsburgh helping to develop community-centred services. She is an active researcher, writer, speaker and consultant on digital libraries and related disciplines and has just completed a celebrated tenure at OCLC.