# How to Think Like a Librarian

This class is presented by the Public Library Academy and sponsored through a grant from IMLS.





## Introductions

Tell us about yourself! What is your name? Where do you work? What is your job title?

Feel free to share a little about your learning goals for this class or some details to help us get to know you a little better.



#### Objectives

- Defend and uphold the Bill of Rights
- Use the principles and ethics of librarianship in a way that demonstrates respect for patron privacy



## Definitions

- American Library Association
- Bill of Rights
- Censorship
- Chilling Effect
- Confidentiality
- Ethics
- Intellectual Freedom
- Privacy
- Self-Censorship



The American Library Association affirms that all libraries are forums for information and ideas, and that the following basic policies should guide their services.

**ALA interpretations** 



I. Books and other library resources should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people of the community the library serves. Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation.



II. Libraries should provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues. Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.



III. Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.



IV. Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas.



V. A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.



VI. Libraries which make exhibit spaces and meeting rooms available to the public they serve should make such facilities available on an equitable basis, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of individuals or groups requesting their use.



VII. All people, regardless of origin, age, background, or views, possess a right to privacy and confidentiality in their library use. Libraries should advocate for, educate about, and protect people's privacy, safeguarding all library use data, including personally identifiable information.



## Library Ethics

- 1. Provide highest level of service
- 2. Resist censorship
- 3. Protect the right to privacy
- 4. Respect intellectual property rights
- 5. Treat co-workers with respect
- 6. Do not advance private interests
- 7. Distinguish between professional and personal convictions
- 8. Continuing education
- 9. Affirm the rights of all people



## Library Ethics

• Group work



#### Intellectual Freedom

# **Intellectual Freedom:** The right of every individual to both seek and receive information from all points of view without restriction.



#### Intellectual Freedom

• Group Work



#### **Class Evaluation**



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# Thank you!

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#### Ranganathan's Five Laws

- 1. Books are for use.
- 2. Every reader his or her book.
- 3. Every book its reader.
- 4. Save the time of the reader.
- 5. A library is a growing organism.

