

Connections



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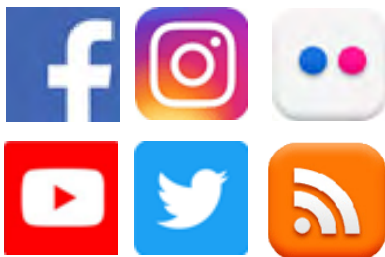
NDSL Pop-Up Library

The North Dakota State Library is coming to you!

The NDSL Pop-Up Library is a brand new service that allows state employees to access a library without leaving their work area. State Library staff will come to any state agency or department in Bismarck for 15–30 minutes with a cart of books available for employees to browse and borrow. The Pop-Up Library is completely free and can take place during a normal break or lunch period with minimal disruption to the work-day.

Sign up your agency for a timeslot and e-mail ndsipa@nd.gov with any questions.

**Subscribe
to our newsletter!**



**Sign up for a
Library Card!**

State Library Out and About

The State Library staff will be in the hallway across from the Capitol Café at the end of January. We will be promoting our annual Blind Date with a Book event that begins in February. Make sure to stop by on January 29 (9:00-1:00) and try your luck at finding a good book and learn about the many services that the State Library has to offer.



New Items At The North Dakota State Library

New E-Audiobooks



New E-Books



New Print Books



RBdigital

Submitted by Angie Houser

The holiday season is over and perhaps you received a new tablet and don't know what to do with it. If it is an Apple, Android, or Kindle Fire device, we have an app for you. [RBdigital](#) is our e-book, e-audiobook, e-magazine, and e-comic book service that is app-based, and it can be found in the app store for your device. In order to have an RBdigital account, you need a public library card or a library card from the North Dakota State Library. With that, you can register by creating a username and password associated with your library card number and from then on, you will only need to remember your username and password.

When you are in the app, you have the choice to look at any of the four options we have available — but if you want to find a specific item, just click on the magnifying glass in the upper right hand corner. There, you choose if you want to search through books, audiobooks, magazines, or comics. You can select to search by keyword, title, or author of the item. After finding the item you are looking for, it will tell you if it is available for checkout or if you need to put a hold on it. If you want to check it out, just click that option; if you want to put a hold on it, click "hold". The system will email you when your hold is available. Once you have your item, click on the three little lines on the left hand side of the page and select "checked out". From there, you can see everything you have checked out. Once you click "download" under your item, it will download the book to your device. After the download is complete, you will not need to be connected to wifi or data to read. When the book is due, it will automatically delete from your account. If you finish before it is due, in this same area, click on the "x" on the right-hand side of the item to return it to the collection.

RBdigital is a great resource for those people who don't have the time to browse a library. If you have any questions about this database or others, please let us know at ndslibrary@nd.gov.

Course Of The Month:

Personal Finance 101: How To Manage Your Money

Submitted by Angie Houser

It is the time of year for New Year's resolutions, and maybe you chose to learn something new this year. One of the most common resolutions is to save more money in the coming year. Universal Class has several courses to help you with this but if you are looking for a place to start, '[Personal Finance 101: How to Manage Your Money](#)' is a solid choice. This course will walk you through your finances. You will be provided everything you need to understand your spending habits, chart your progress, and grow your current savings. These are not the only steps that this course will go through, but they are the key components of the course.



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This course is 11 lessons, 18 exams and assignments, and should take around 5 hours to complete.

When you are done with this course, make sure to check out the course '[Debt Reduction](#)' to help you manage your credit card and loan debts.

If you have any questions, please e-mail us at ndslibrary@nd.gov.

***The Heroes* by Joe Abercrombie**

Reviewed by Trevor Martinson

The Heroes was a hard book to put down. It isn't for the faint of heart, though. The story is raw and violent. It's fantasy, but there are no elves, ancient foes, or heroes for that matter (despite the book's title).

This is a standalone book in the same world as the First Law trilogy, taking place several years after it. However, it's also a sequel of sorts. The trilogy ended with a number of unanswered questions, and *The Heroes* helps fill in some gaps. A number of characters in the trilogy are prominently featured in this story.

The King of the Union is tired of his warmongering neighbors to the north and has sent his army to crush them. Bremer dan Gorst, the disgraced warrior with the girlish voice, accompanies the army; he's become bitter in his exile and will slay as many Northmen as it takes to gain redemption. Bayaz, First of the Magi, is back instigating a hidden agenda in his endless vendetta with rival wizards, with a disregard of the toll.

The ruthless Black Dow rules the North, and he's not one to back down from a fight. His army will meet the Union's head on. Dow calls himself the Protector of the North, but he's the stealer of it if you ask "Prince" Calder. The cunning, yet cowardly, son of the former king will do whatever it takes to reclaim his father's throne. Curnden Craw is a seasoned fighter and a good man; he wants nothing more than to survive this fight, but honesty and old age have no place in war.

The entire book focuses on the events before, during, and after one battle in a meaningless war. The book jumps right in, and you pick up most of the backstory along the way, along with the [huge cast of characters](#). The bloody battle will decide the fate of the North. There will be no heroes, only survivors and the dead.

Joe Abercrombie's gritty storytelling is unmatched. He has taken fantasy and dragged it down into the gutter (in a good way). *The Heroes* and other Joe Abercrombie books are available on [RBDigital](#).

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Kirsten Baesler, State Superintendent
Mary J. Soucie, State Librarian

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