Using Call Numbers to Find a Book

Perform your search in DELCAT Discovery. [On screen action: typing "Wonderful Wizard of Oz" into DELCAT search field.]

If your search reveals that the location of your book is University of Delaware, like many other University of Delaware, like many other

lists it as Available, this means that it is a physical book that can be found on

the Morris Library bookshelves or stacks.
universities and institutions, uses the

Library of Congress classification

system to organize the thousands and

thousands of books available here on

campus. The Library of Congress

classification system helps to organize

subjects, groups of books, and individual

books. For now simply write down this

total number [PS 3502.A923 W5 1973] or capture an image of it

to help you find your book in the stacks.

[Music]

Call numbers are listed alphabetically [Animation reveals the "ribbon search" technique. Start at top of book
shelves and look, left-to-right. Then move directly down that same shelf to begin again.]

[Music]
and numerically in order but you'll [Animation reveals the "ribbon search" technique. Start at top of book shelves and look, left-to-right. Then move directly down that same shelf to begin again.]

first need to determine what floor of

Morris Library to start looking on.

Compare the first letter of your call [Call number screenshot on iPhone highlights a capital letter "P".]

number to one of several wayfinding [Call number screenshot on iPhone highlights a capital letter "P".]

devices throughout the library and match [Call number screenshot on iPhone highlights a capital letter "P".]

the beginning letters to the proper

floor. You can use the UD library "Yellow

Sheet", found at the main floor's Reference

Desk, a Morris Library map, or simply poke

your head into a stairwell.

Looks like our book is found on the
second floor. Let's head that way! Each range of shelving has a sign with the call numbers of the books located in that section. The first set of letters and numbers will indicate on which stack or shelf your book is located. Note that this first set of numbers is a whole number. Be sure to reference that entire [On-screen animation compares the numbers 3503 and 301, indicating that they are not equal and you should continue searching.] section when searching for your books [On-screen animation compares the numbers 3503 and 301, indicating that they are not equal and you should continue searching.] shelving area. [On-screen action reveals a discovery of the range finder that contains our call number (PS 3503.A923 W5 1973)] [Music - On-screen action reveals a discovery of the range finder that contains our call number (PS 3503.A923 W5 1973)]
And the second set of figures - a decimal set - will help you find where your book is located on the shelf. In some cases the final number you will see is the year. This can indicate what volume or edition you are looking up. Make sure that you have the correct edition that you are seeking. Bring your book to the circulation and reserve desk on the first floor to check it out. Be sure to have your UD ID. Happy reading!