Many faculty members have become devoted fans of the Cerro Author program, as it affords BC students such an extraordinary opportunity to interact with an author. A few of those devotees suggested that we ask Mark Salzman to be our Cerro Author for 2011. We did, and to our great delight, he accepted. In years past, we have had our author focus on one book, but because several of Salzman’s books are so well suited for our students, he will be focusing on three of his books. Two are memoirs: Iron and Silk, which describes his experience teaching English and studying under a Kung Fu master in China, was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. True Notebooks: A Writer's Year at Juvenile Hall describes the time he spent teaching writing to young violent offenders. The last selection is a novel entitled Lying Awake about a cloistered nun’s spiritual crisis. While the subjects of these books are quite different, they each examine individuals being challenged by their circumstances and being transformed by those experiences.

Salzman will give three presentations for the BC community in the Fireside Room on Tuesday, October 11—at 10, 2 and 6:30. He has titled his presentation Fall Down Seven Times, Get Up Eight: Chapters from the Writing Life, as he will discuss the nature of the writing process. His message should reverberate with students, who sometimes are frustrated that writing involves rereading and rewriting and editing and rereading and rewriting...

We hope faculty and staff will encourage students to take advantage of this rare opportunity to meet a distinguished author. We welcome you to bring your class, as well. If you do plan to bring a class to one of the sessions or if you have any questions, please contact Librarian Marci Lingo (mlingo@bakersfieldcollege.edu or 4209).

As usual, copies of his books will be distributed FREE to STUDENTS beginning at 9 am on Wednesday, September 14th in the library (upstairs) and on the Delano campus. The books will be available on a first-come, first served basis. We will provide only one book per student, and students will be asked to verify their student status. Copies of the books will also be available for sale at the presentations.

This annual program is made possible by the generous bequest of Dolores Cerro and is named in her honor.

New e-book Provider

Those of you who use BC’s e-book collection may be surprised by its new look. NetLibrary, our former provider, has been purchased by EBSCO. Most of the features you knew and loved in NetLibrary are still available, but the format and interface are different. But a user can still do a full-text search, print pages, and so forth. The librarians are still in the process of acquainting ourselves with the new interface, but if you have any questions, please call the reference desk (4466).

Currently, we have over 11,000 e-books in the collection, and that number will grow. Many of the titles are very current and scholarly, so they are great for research. Not only can you access e-books from the library catalog, but the collection is now a selection directly from our EBSCOhost database. Also, on inside bc, when you have clicked on the student tab, you can access any EBSCO product, including e-books, from a pull down menu in the library pane. And, best of all, a user doesn’t have to re-enter any pesky numbers or passwords since you are already logged in. (We are working on this simplified access the Gale databases too!)
How Does One Research the New Media?

The effects “new media” are profound. From the impact of the internet to the cell phone and tablet technology, our lives—from our most personal communications to political and economic processes—are forever changed. Many of our students examine these effects in papers and speeches, and to research the myriad effects of new media, they often turn to a very old medium—books. (Some of these titles are in a new medium—the ebook—but they are still books, merely delivered in a new way.) So, ironic or not, here is a list of some of the books the library has recently acquired on the subject.


Selected New Books in the General Collection (in call number order)

Recreation and Sociology


Science, Technology and Medicine


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