Lesson Plan

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PSY 1001 - General Psychology
1st-year undergraduates

Topic: Research in library databases

Objectives:

- Students will identify appropriate search terms for their topics.
- Students will locate at least one article in a library database.
- Students will create an APA-style citation for their source.

Materials:

- Computer lab with internet access
- Instructor station with projector or smartboard
- Mobile whiteboards
- LibGuide
- Google form, Zoom, or NearPod
- Post-session assessment form

Activities:

(10 Minutes) Search terms exercise

1. Use a sample topic (volunteered by a student, preferably) to demonstrate how to identify search terms within a thesis or topic statement.
   a. Example topic: Listening to music while studying benefits students.
2. In groups of 3 or 4, depending on class size, students identify search terms for their own topics.
3. Students list identified search terms on mobile whiteboards.

(25 Minutes) Database search exercise

1. Use terms from first exercise to perform a search in a library database.
2. Allow students plenty of time to perform searches on their own, using terms they identified in first activity.
3. Address questions as they arise.

(15 minutes) NoodleTools citation exercise

1. Use an article from the second exercise to demonstrate the process for citing a source using NoodleTools.
2. Students create citations for their own sources using NoodleTools.
3. Instructor addresses questions as they arise.

Assessment:

- Observational assessment
- Google form with relevant questions
    - What search terms did you identify for your topic during today's session?
    - How many sources did you locate?
    - Copy and paste a citation for one of your sources into the field below.

ACRL Information Literacy Framework:

- Research as Inquiry
    - Knowledge practices 3, 4, & 6
- Searching as Strategic Exploration
    - Knowledge practice 8