A LA CARTE INSTRUCTION

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THE TRADITIONAL “VANILLA” LESSON PLAN

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
- LibGuides
- 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
  o What search terms did you identify for your topic during today’s session?
  o How many sources did you locate?
  o Copy and paste a citation for one of your sources into the field below.

ACRL Information Literacy Framework:
- Research as inquiry
  o Knowledge practices 3, 4, & 6
- Searching as Strategic Exploration
  o Knowledge practice 8
Library Orientation Assignment:
Students must visit the library before the day of the instruction and complete an orientation packet.

Pre-Assessment:
3-question Google form

(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?
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Tutorial Video:
Share citation tutorial via Blackboard and LibGuide
Digital Orientation Assignment: Students must complete the online orientation video & quiz before the day of the instruction.

Pre-Assessment: Zoom poll, open-ended questions in Zoom chat.

Search terms activity: Ask students to brainstorm search terms and submit them via pollev.com. Share results in real time.

Putting it into practice: Give students time to search for articles in a database. Have them share their findings and discuss what worked and what didn’t via screen share and chat.

Video follow-up: Provide links to relevant tutorials and upload recording of one-shot instruction.
TODAY’S SPECIALS: LIBRARY ORIENTATION

- Library orientations serve as an introduction to the library’s collections and services.
- Library orientations are available in guided, self-guided and online formats.
- Although library orientations are offered on a continuous basis, students typically complete them at the beginning of each semester.
- Many faculty members offer extra credit points for completion.
TODAY’S SPECIALS: LIBRARY TUTORIALS

- Library tutorials are available to patrons through the Jacobs Library YouTube channel.
- Video links can be embedded into LibGuides and Blackboard courses.
- Tutorials are a great way to share extra information after an instruction session.
- Tutorial links can also be offered to students before an instruction session to help them refresh basic library skills.
TODAY’S SPECIALS: LIBRARY BADGES

- Tutorials and other activities can be linked to library badges in Blackboard.
- Badges provide added incentive for students to complete library activities outside of an instruction session.
- Badges can be granted automatically when a student completes a particular activity or on a case by case basis at the librarian’s discretion.