Beyond the One-Shot: Providing Course-Integrated Instruction for Large, First-Year University Classes

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Abstract

Biology 103 and Sociology 122 are required introductory courses at Queen’s University. In both courses, librarians have designed a multi-faceted approach for large, first-year students. This paper will focus on the Sociology 122 course. Students are surveyed about their use of library resources and their engagement in the library instruction embedded in their course. The potential role of librarians as instructors will be discussed.

Information Literacy Learning Objectives: Sociology 122

Knowledge

Students will learn the research process for a scientific problem and how to gather research to investigate this query. The session is also designed to introduce the course web guide and WebCT library quiz.

Skills

Students are instructed in the research process—constructing effective keyword searches, using Boolean operators, searching for books in the library catalogue, finding articles in Sociological Abstracts. Students are also introduced to the information literacy instruction embedded in their course WebCT site.

Assessment/Evaluation

This is the second year of this pilot program. In each pilot course, students are informally surveyed about their use of library resources during in-depth research activities. In addition, feedback is collected from students who are taking the course WebCT library quiz.

Future Plans

Next year, students will be required to complete the pre- and post-quiz in order to earn a final grade. Future goals include the creation of a tracking system to monitor the use of library resources during in-depth research activities. Future plans also include a librarian as an instructor who will provide support to students in the course.

Sources and Suggested Readings


Part 1: Online library guide for SOCY 122

The online library guide for Sociology 122 is designed to help students find relevant and credible information. The guide includes links to library databases, instructions for searching, and information literacy instruction embedded in the WebCT course.

Part 2: Personalized Instruction

The purpose of the one-on-one sessions is to have the students meet with a librarian and learn about the help available to them, to provide general orientation to the library and to introduce them to key resources: the library catalogue and databases, and instructions for their use.

Part 3: Library Quiz via WebCT

The quiz consists of 12 multiple choice questions designed to help students learn the research process. Students may only cite primary journal articles for these assignments. Questions are randomized a. MLA  b. ASA  c. APA  d. Chicago style

Part 6: Quiz in WebCT

Students are instructed in the research process—constructing effective keyword searches, using Boolean operators, searching for books in the library catalogue, finding articles in Sociological Abstracts. Students are also introduced to the information literacy instruction embedded in their course WebCT site.

Part 3: Tutorial Activity

Students will produce accurate citations using the ASA style guide produced by the Department. Students will also be able to identify when and where they need to use information from different types of instructors.

Part 2: Online library guide for BIOL 103

The online library guide for Biology 103 is designed to help students find relevant and credible information. The guide includes links to library databases, instructions for searching, and information literacy instruction embedded in the WebCT course.

Part 2: Tutorials

In the tutorials, students are taught to write papers. The assignments are designed to help students develop their writing skills. Students are also given a handout outlining the characteristics of each assignment.

Part 1: Online library guide for BIOL 103

The online library guide for Biology 103 is designed to help students find relevant and credible information. The guide includes links to library databases, instructions for searching, and information literacy instruction embedded in the WebCT course.

Part 3: Library Quiz via WebCT

The quiz consists of 12 multiple choice questions designed to help students learn the research process. Students may only cite primary journal articles for these assignments. Questions are randomized a. MLA  b. ASA  c. APA  d. Chicago style