

LIBRARY INSTRUCTION SESSIONS

Sessions are tailored to instructor specifications and may include selections from the following.

I. RESEARCH TOOLS, TIPS AND STRATEGIES

Matching sources and information needs

- Decode assignments.
- Learn characteristics of books, journals, magazines, blogs, etc.
- Choose search tools: catalog, databases, Google/Yahoo/MSN, government sites, etc.

Using the library catalog

- Search for items by author, title, subject, keyword, location, call #, etc.
- Search for and access e-books.
- Understand catalog records (call numbers, location, and periodicals info).
- Use catalog's features (kept list, embedded links, renew materials, etc.).
- Select citation information.

Choosing and using appropriate databases

- Use Subject Research Guide tips.
- Search for and locate topical articles.
- Obtain articles (full-text links, SFX, periodical holdings, catalog, interlibrary loan, etc.).
- Collect information for creating reference lists.

Creating effective online searches

- Identify key concepts.
- Search using Boolean operators, truncation, phrase, etc.

Locating articles using citation information

- SFX E-Journals Citation Finder and Google Scholar.

Evaluating sources

- Currency, authority, objectivity, verifiability, etc.

Getting items not in the library's collections

- Interlibrary loan and TexShare.

Citing sources:

- Choose appropriate citation style.
- Determine resource type and locate information for citation.
- Arrange pieces (use software and check with style guide).

II. WALK-ABOUT AND/OR VIRTUAL TOURS OF LIBRARY RESOURCES & SERVICES

- Reference assistance (in person, by phone, email) and hours (open 101 hrs/ week).
- Course reserves and test preparation materials (GRE, CLEP, etc.).
- Audiovisual equipment, resources, and listening stations.
- In-house laptops, computer workstations, and ADA stations.
- Copiers, laminating, transparencies, die-cuts.
- Study & meeting rooms, study areas, and student lounge & coffee bar.

III. CUSTOMIZED SESSIONS (tailored to course needs)

- Topics requested by the instructor (i.e. specialized databases, reading academic articles, creating lists of possible sources, etc.).