

2015

Instruction @ the URI Libraries - August 2015

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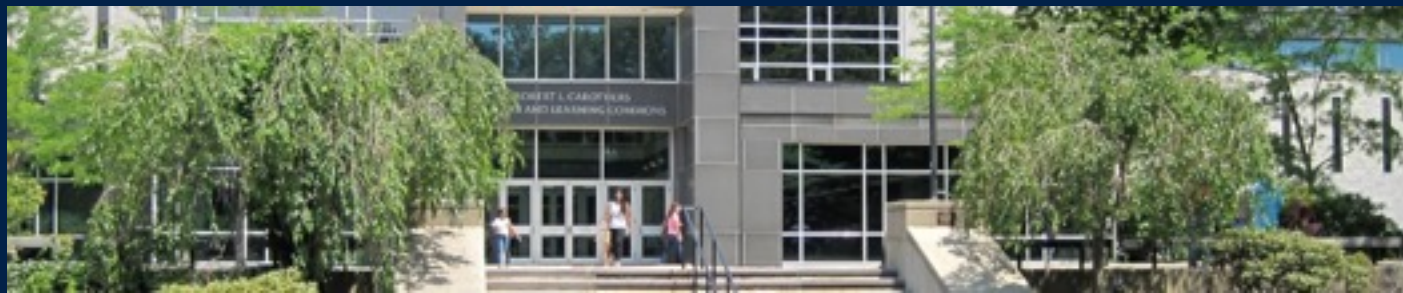
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Instruction @ the URI Libraries



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Papers, Presentations, and Projects - Oh My!

Help Students Conduct Better Information Research & Submit Better Assignments

Most students have limited research experience. Each new semester - and sometimes each new course - requires students to master a new set of information research concepts and skills. Practices to support students learning to do information research are suggested below.

Explain your expectations for the information research assignment. Research terminology can be confusing to many students. Information research tools, such as catalogs and databases, are different for every discipline and are often completely new to students who are just starting college level research.

Teach information research techniques and strategies. Explain to students what types and formats of information you hope they'll use, and why. Plan an instruction session with a librarian for your class, or, collaborate with a librarian to design and embed a library research guide in your course Sakai site.

Break the research project into manageable parts, such as topic approval, annotated bibliography, draft and final submission. Evaluate each part of the project, holding students accountable for completing the background research necessary, and preparing them for the final work submission.

Encourage students to ask for help at the Info & Research Help Desk. Students may visit, phone, or

use online chat to discuss their research questions with us!

Discuss what plagiarism and academic dishonesty mean to you and how it will affect their work. Although many students have heard it's not good to plagiarize, they frequently have difficulty citing sources in unfamiliar formats, or understanding what is common knowledge in a new discipline.

For more support, contact a librarian and be sure to embed InfoRhode, the libraries award-winning information literacy tutorial in your Sakai site or syllabus.

URI Libraries' Award Winning Information Literacy Tutorial - [InfoRhode](#)

Share InfoRhode with your students to help them learn basic college-level information research skills. InfoRhode has been approved for inclusion in the ALA/ACRL Instruction Section's [Peer-Reviewed Instructional Materials Online \(PRIMO\)](#) database. InfoRhode has also been recognized and included in the [MERLOT database \(the Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning Online and Teaching\)](#).

Meet the URI Libraries Search, the new catalog!

This summer, the URI Libraries Search went live, and it offers many new features and functions to make your research - and your students' research - smoother and faster. On the main search page, you'll see familiar options that let you combine topics and ideas, select your preferred formats, and limit to specific dates. By default, you'll be searching the URI Libraries' books, ebooks, videos, and more. If you'd rather do a quick search across databases for articles, just select the Articles & More tab at the top. If you sign in using your eCampus username and Sakai/Wireless/LDAP password, you can customize your results for your preferred disciplines, renew and request items, access additional materials and online resources, and add items to your eShelf and export citations. To learn more about the URI Libraries Search, head to <http://uri.libguides.com/catalog>. If you'd like to arrange a session for your class to learn the features of this new tool, please contact Mary MacDonald, Head of Instruction, at marymac@uri.edu or 874-4635.

By the Numbers

330 Talent Development students learned the basics of using the new URI Libraries Search and finding articles in Library orientation sessions during their first week on campus in June.

27 students took LIB 120 Introduction to Information Literacy this summer, which was offered in one face-to-face section and one online section.

8,299 students attended a library instruction session from September 2014 to July 2015.

Related Updates

PsycINFO and PsycARTICLES now on ProQuest

To improve access to the millions of articles cited in PsycINFO and PsycARTICLES, access to these two important databases is now available on ProQuest. The functionality you've seen on the EBSCO platform is still there, but now you can combine your searches with other social science databases also on ProQuest, such as Social Services Abstracts, Sociological Abstracts, and the PILOTS (Published International Literature on Traumatic Stress) database. To see a list of all of our social science databases, see <http://uri.libguides.com/soc>.

ProQuest Redesigns Interface

On August 20, ProQuest launched a redesigned interface with an eye toward simplifying access and improving result displays. If you need assistance with the new interface, please contact the Info & Research Help Desk.

...And Stay Tuned for Our Fall 2015 Search Savvy Seminar Announcements!

Instruction @ the URI Libraries provides updates and tips related to the URI Libraries' instruction programs and offerings, and is distributed in January, May, and August.

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