

University of Idaho

From the Selected Works of Rick A Stoddart

Spring 2011

University 106-002: Library Skills

Richard A Stoddart, *Oregon State University*



Available at: https://works.bepress.com/richard_stoddart/40/

**UNIV 106-002, Library Skills
SPRING 2011
Thursdays (10:40am - 11:30am)
Instructor: Rick Stoddart**

COURSE WEBSITE:

<https://sites.google.com/a/boisestate.edu/u106spring2011w/>

**(this is accessible via your BroncoMail - Google Sites applications:
title: [U106Spring2011W](#))**

Office: Library 107A

Email: rickstoddart@boisestate.edu

Phone: (208) 426-1626

***Instant Messaging is available from the course website and via
BroncoMail Google apps as well as the course website.***

Hours: I am generally in the library from 8:30am to 4:30pm Monday through Friday, and you are always welcome to stop by my office (L107A). I am also available to set up an appointment with you if you contact me ahead of time by any of the above methods.

Required Materials

There are no required textbooks for this course. HOWEVER, there may be REQUIRED readings which will be made available to you through Library Reserves, the class website, or other methods.

Suggested Books (not required):

Project Writing and Research (PoWeR) e-textbook:

<http://guides.boisestate.edu/power>

Ballenger, B. P. (2009). *The curious writer*. New York: Pearson Longman.

Booth, W. C., Colomb, G. G., & Williams, J. M. (2008). *The craft of research*. Chicago guides to writing, editing, and publishing. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Course description and goals, 2009/10/11

University 106 provides an introduction to the library research process and basic tools a student needs to succeed in coursework at Boise State University and beyond. Students will gain proficiency using essential library resources and will become familiar with aspects of information in its societal context. In addition, students will encounter selected discipline oriented library resources. In this course, you will learn to:

- 1. recognize how information is created and distributed, and understand that content differs by information format. (ACRL #1)**
 - 2. determine information need and design search strategies to locate information sources relevant to your research topic. (ACRL #1,2)**
 - 3. use a variety of electronic and print resources, with emphasis on library resources and services, to locate information on your research topic. (ACRL #2)**
 - 4. select and evaluate the most useful information sources for your research topic. (ACRL #3)**
 - 5. reflect on and revise your individual research process. (ACRL #1,2,4)**
 - 6. demonstrate a basic understanding of plagiarism and documentation of sources. (ACRL #5)**
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HOW WILL YOUR GRADE BE DETERMINED?

A passing grade ("P") will be awarded to those who score a total of 72 points or above from the criteria listed below. There is a total of 100 points available.

- 1. Class participation** - Particularly the FIND IT exercises/Activities and class discussions will be used to determine class participation. Homework may be assigned and discussed in class. If you don't do the homework then you will not be able to participate fully in the discussions. Additionally, if you do not attend class you not be eligible to participate at all. Students will be awarded 2 (+), 1 (-) or no (0) points for class participation each class meeting. There are 15 classes which equals a possible **30 points**.
- 2. Midterm** - presentation of a database - less than 5 minutes plus provide a brief handout as well as post the course website. This will be an informal presentation of a database. You will show off the search features and content of one library database. You will also prepare a brief handout for the class. A handout example and criteria for what to include in the presentation/class handout will be made available from the instructor. Databases will be assigned to students based on student interest. **30 points possible**

3. Show me / the class you can FIND: a Book, a journal title, and a peer-reviewed article - Time will be allotted at the end of each class for you to show me/class that you are able to find a book, peer-reviewed article, and journal by title. You can do this anytime during the semester. If you are already proficient in this, get it over with and do it early in the semester. Basically, this is your on-going homework assignment during the semester to become proficient in doing these three things. Use opportunities in class to try out these skills. **10 points possible. – THIS IS NOT EXTRA CREDIT BUT PART OF YOUR OVERALL POINTS FOR THE CLASS – DUE BEFORE THE MIDTERM**

4. Final Project - Compare/Contrast databases poster. Based on your major, select a pair of databases to compare/contrast. Criteria will be handed out in class. (You may also negotiate a different final project if desired) **30 points possible**

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Wednesdays from 10:40am to 11:30am

Jan 20th -- Class Introduction -
History Detectives TV show
What Research looks like
Homework: History Detective – (worksheet)
Suggested Reading from PoWeR e-text: Inquiry Process, Keywords

Jan 27th -- The Research Process - Class Website
History Detective report back
Drawing the Research Process
Wiki access - What is a wiki?
Suggested Reading from PoWeR e-text: Explore a Topic

Feb 3rd -- What makes Good Information?
Evaluation Criteria
Information Life Cycle.
Suggested Reading from PoWeR e-text: Evaluation

Feb 10th (ONLINE NW) -- (no in-person class)
Finding Information in a Library
- Library research videos
Finding your way in a Library - What happens in a library?
- Library Ethnography Assignment

-FIND IT – Library Treasure Hunt (homework)
Suggested Reading from PoWeR e-text: Adv Article, Field

Research

- Feb 17th --** Finding a book, call numbers, etc.
LC - game competition
Reference Tour - grab book to solve info need (**Elaine Watson**)
Physically find book exercise (give call numbers and find - homework).
Suggested Reading from PoWeR e-text: Basic Research, Adv Book
- Feb 24th --** Primary vs. Secondary Sources, Digital Collections, Archives
Special Collections tour (**Erin Passehl**)
Suggested Reading from PoWeR e-text: Primary Sources
- March 3rd --** What most Databases have.
FIND IT - (Button) - Find Full Text via Find It button
FIND IT - Exercise in class
Suggested Reading from PoWeR e-text: Adv Article
- March 10th** (Library 101)-- **(NO IN-PERSON CLASS)**
Information Literacy
Information Literacy Video - 21 minutes
(<http://tinyurl.com/yj8hn9d>)
Suggested Reading from PoWeR e-text: Evaluation,
- March 17th --** Midterm Database Presentations
In-class essay - summary of presentations
- March 24th --** Midterm Database Presentations
In-class essay - summary of presentations
- March 31st--** SPRING BREAK
- April 7th --** Lifelong learning Library Skills (worldcat.org, ILL, LiLI, public libraries)
FIND IT exercise
Suggested Reading from PoWeR e-text: Adv Web, Adv Book
- April 14th --** Plagiarism Test (<https://www.indiana.edu/~istd/>)
(**Writing Center visits????**)
Suggested Reading from PoWeR e-text: Citing Sources

April 21st -- FIND IT EXERCISE

April 28th -- FIND IT EXERCISE

May 5th - LEARNING CELEBRATION - Showcase of final projects (posters, videos, etc.).
Suggested Reading from PoWeR e-text:

Student Online Privacy Notice

Please take a few minutes to read the [Student Online Privacy Notice](http://itc.boisestate.edu/BbSupport/BbDocs/general/PrivacyNotice.htm), which describes in general terms your rights and responsibilities while participating in an Internet-enhanced course.

<http://itc.boisestate.edu/BbSupport/BbDocs/general/PrivacyNotice.htm>

Plagiarism and Intellectual Honesty

Plagiarism occurs when a person borrows directly from another's ideas or work without documentation. It doesn't matter if the work is that of a published author, an unpublished co-worker, or another student. A student who plagiarizes will be excluded from the course, will receive a final grade of F, and may be referred to the Dean of Students and the Student Conduct Board for disciplinary action. Other penalties may include academic probation, suspension, or expulsion from school.

If you have any questions about plagiarism, talk to me. You can also find further clarification in *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*; the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*; the *BSU Student Handbook*; and the [Student Online Privacy Notice](http://itc.boisestate.edu/BbSupport/BbDocs/general/PrivacyNotice.htm).

<http://itc.boisestate.edu/BbSupport/BbDocs/general/PrivacyNotice.htm>

Special Considerations

If you need any special accommodations for this course, please let me know as soon as possible. The [Boise State University Office of Disability Services](#) offers services designed to meet the educational needs of enrolled students with documented disabilities.