University of Idaho

From the SelectedWorks of Rick A Stoddart

Spring 2010

University 106: Library Skills

Richard A Stoddart, Oregon State University

Available at: https://works.bepress.com/richard_stoddart/41/
UNIV 106-001, Library Skills
Spring 2010
Thursdays (10:40am - 11:30am)

Syllabus

Instructor: Rick Stoddart

COURSE WEBSITE: https://sites.google.com/a/u.boisestate.edu/u106th/
(this is accessible via your BroncoMail - Google Sites applications)

Office: Library 107A
Email: rickstoddart@boisestate.edu
Phone: (208) 426-1621

Instant Messaging is available from the course website and via BroncoMail Google app.

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):


Course description and goals, 2009/10
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)

How will your grade be determined?
A passing grade ("P") will be awarded to those who score a total of 75 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. 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 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**

4. **Final Project** - Pick one option from the list below to showcase your learning. **Get approval by the instructor on/or before April 7th** as to what option and topic you will be doing. **30 points possible**

   **Possible Options:**

   **Annotated Bibliography** of at least 10 sources - criteria will be handed out about what to include in your annotations (this is a good option if you already have a research paper you are working on for another class)

   OR

   Create a brief online **video tutorial** (no more than 5 minutes) about a library database, the research process or other (negotiate with the instructor)

   OR

   **Create a poster** about a database, the research process, library service or other bibliographic tool. (negotiate with the instructor).

   OR

   **Negotiate an acceptable final project** which demonstrates some aspect of your learning. This can be based on your interests, an assignment in another class, or perhaps something to show to a potential employer. Whatever you decide, your project must demonstrate your research skills and use of library or other appropriate information sources.
Tentative Course Schedule

Thursdays from 10:40am to 11:30am

January 21 -- Class Introduction -
History Detective
Syllabus quiz
Homework: History Detective - Reflective Essay

January 28 -- "Building a Learning Community" Exercise-
Wiki access - What is a wiki?
FIND IT exercise
Evaluation Criteria Development

February 4 -- (no in-person class) Information Literacy Video - 21 minutes
(http://tinyurl.com/yj8hn9d)
Library ethnography - What happens in a Library? worksheet - 29 minutes

February 11 -- Applying Evaluation Criteria REVIEW - additions?
Ethnography debriefing ("tour" of the library)
Reference Tour - grab book to solve info need (Ellie Dworak)
FIND IT exercise topic - Provided by Instructor

February 18 -- LC - game competition
FIND IT exercise -
Physically find book exercise (give call numbers and find).
CRC tour (Margie Ruppel)

February 25 -- FIND IT exercise
Special Collections tour (Erin Passehl)

March 4 -- In class exercise: What most Databases have.
FIND IT - (Button)
In class exercise - Find Full Text via Find It button

March 11 -- FIND IT Exercise -
Business Sources (Melissa Kozel)

March 12 -- Midterm Presentations
In-class essay - summary of presentations

March 25 -- Midterm Presentations
In-class essay - summary of presentations

April 1 -- Spring Break no class

April 8 -- DECLARE FINAL PROJECT TOPIC/ OPTION.
FIND IT exercise
Plagiarism Tutorial (https://www.indiana.edu/~istd/)
(Writing Center visits)

April 15 -- FIND IT exercise
Lifelong learning Library Skills (worldcat.org, ILL, LiLI, public libraries).
April 22  -- FIND IT exercise  
(catch up class)

April 29  -- LEARNING CELEBRATION - Showcase of final projects (posters, videos, etc.).

May 6  -- Last class - Open

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**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.

**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).

**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](http://itc.boisestate.edu/BbSupport/BbDocs/general/PrivacyNotice.htm) offers services designed to meet the educational needs of enrolled students with documented disabilities.