Bringing the Library into the Lab: Implementing a Library Tutorial at the Point of Need

Margaret Barkley
University of Dayton, mbarkley1@udayton.edu

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Bringing the Library into the Lab: Implementing a Library Tutorial at the Point of Need

Meg Barkley
Life and Health Sciences Librarian
Roesch Library

In 2015 a faculty member teaching Biology 152 Lab requested library instruction sessions. The focus was to teach students how to use databases to find research articles and how to cite information properly.

Next steps for this project involve analyzing the quiz results to find if the questions need to be altered or if the tutorial needs to cover subject content more in-depth.

Acknowledgments: Casey Hanley, Department of Biology Introductory Teaching Lab Coordinator; Ryan Allen, Learning Teaching Center Director of E-Learning

NEED
In 2015 a faculty member teaching Biology 152 Lab requested library instruction sessions. The focus was to teach students how to use databases to find research articles and how to cite information properly.

RESPONSE
Due to the number of labs being taught (22 sections in Spring Semester) and the time frame (1 week) in which sessions would need to be completed, individual library instruction sessions were not possible. Instead, a guided library tutorial was created to lead students through these topics.

LEARNING OUTCOMES
LEARNING OUTCOME 1: Demonstrate use of Biology-focused databases.

Objective 1-1: Learn to find scientific reports and research for use in Biology 152 Lab.

Objective 1-2: Learn to locate number of results for a search and use database limiters to narrow result list.

LEARNING OUTCOME 2: Demonstrate importance of using proper citation methods in lab reports.

Objective 2-1: Learn why citations are important.

Objective 2-2: Learn what information is needed to cite a scholarly journal.

TOOLS USED
Guide on the Side
Databases
• Web of Science
• ScienceDirect
Isidore (University of Dayton branded Sakai LMS)
Scientific Writing Pre-Lab (assigned by Lab Coordinator)
15 Question Non-Graded Quiz
• Covers databases, scientific writing, and proper citation methods

TUTORIAL ELEMENTS
Identifying parts of a scientific journal
How to use/navigate scientific databases
Proper citation methods

Tutorial was implemented with Scientific Writing Lab as Pre-Lab assignment

DESIGN
Library tutorial for Biology Lab class.

IMPLEMENTATION

Implement tutorial in live class LMS

Establish outline for project and create transcript and quiz
• Share with Lab Coordinator and get feedback

Meet with Biology Lab Coordinator and discuss project and goals

Create tutorial within class LMS simulation
• Share with Lab Coordinator and get feedback

Meet with Learning Teaching Center representative to create class LMS simulation

RESULTS

NEXT STEPS

Next steps for this project involve analyzing the quiz results to find if the questions need to be altered or if the tutorial needs to cover subject content more in-depth.

Quiz from library tutorial