Embedded Librarians: Building Relationships with the Honors College

Jenna Rinalducci
George Mason University, VA

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EMBEDDED LIBRARIANS:
BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS
WITH THE HONORS COLLEGE

Jenna Rinalducci
George Mason University
Liaison Librarian for Visual Arts and Honors College
Overview

- 14 sections with librarians assigned to particular section(s)
- Friday recitations
- Team teaching
- 4 classes (instruction & activities) & 1 class for research help
- Individual research appointments later in semester
- Online presence (Blackboard & Library Website)
- Library writing assignments—grading
- Material connected to coursework as appropriate
Where We Came From

- One 50 minute class during semester
- Teaching the Teaching Assistants/TAs
  - Week before Fall Semester
  - Voluntary
- New teachers
Where We’re Going

Fall 2010:

- Multiple library instruction sessions
  - Course integrated
- Online involvement through Blackboard
- Variety of instructional strategies
  - Presentations/Demonstrations
  - In-class group activities
  - Graded assignments
Collaboration

With the Honors College:

- Library-Faculty Collaboration
- Meetings with Dean of Honors College
- Meetings with dean, faculty & TAs during planning process
- Faculty & TAs from various departments
- Shared wiki
Shared Wiki

HNRS 110: Research Methods

Library Sessions Overview

Contents

Librarians, please provide comments or questions here.

- General Overview (below)
- Library Instruction Sessions
  - Session 1: Introduction: The Information Cycle/ Evaluation of Information (week 1)
  - Session 2: Getting Started: advanced Google/ The Libraries: Website (week 2)
  - Session 3: Exploring the Library Catalog (week 4)
  - Session 4: Navigating Library Databases (week 5)
  - Session 5: Research Help (week 6)—in-class help using databases, etc.
- Library Assignments (student writing prompts)
- Instructor Teams & Sections
- All Library Files

General Overview

- Four librarian-led Friday sessions; variety of instructional modes (weeks 1, 2, 4, and 5)
- Friday research sessions for student work with librarian/GTA assistance (weeks 6)
- Librarian availability for individual appointments with students (weeks 11 and 12)
- Library Assignments (brief writing prompts to assess library sessions)
- Blackboard discussion forums for student/librarian interaction (relevant discussions shared between sections)
- Online support materials (tutorials, links, etc.) accessible via HNRS110 InfoGuide; shortcut: http://bit.ly/gmuhnrs110

Examples of Student Work

Illustrative student work from previous semesters

- Sample HNRS 110 Paper on Midranges 2006
- Sample HNRS 110 Paper on TM 2003
- Sample Paper on Perfect Pick HNRS 110 2009

Outdated Material for Fall 2010

Older versions of documents related to the Fall 2010 semester, available for archival purposes

- Draft Syllabus (updated July 2, 2010)

Fall 2009 Archive

First versions of Fall 2009 HNRS 110 material
Even More Collaboration

In the Libraries:

- Worked with Head of Education Services to formulate goals & learning outcomes
- Several volunteers from the library
- Team teaching in the classroom
- Experience for library staff/new librarians in safe environment
- Communication: weekly meetings, listserv...
Semester Schedule

Preparation for the Research Project (weeks 1-4)
- Week 1: The Information Cycle & Critical Thinking
- Week 2: Getting Started: Using Google & the Library InfoGuides
- Week 4: Exploring the Library Catalog

Research, Research Proposal, Working with Sources (weeks 5-9)
- Week 5: Navigating the Research Databases
- Week 6: Research Help
- Week 9: Research Help if requested

Drafting and Revising and Presenting the Research Project (weeks 10-15)
- Week 11: Individual Appointments (as requested)
- Week 12: Individual Appointments (as requested)

*Additional support will be provided throughout the semester*
Pre-Test: What They Got Right

Percentage of Correct Answers

Questions

1. Reading an LC call number
2. Definition of Plagiarism
3. Other
4. Other
5. Other
6. Other
7. Other
8. Other
9. Other
10. Other
11. Other
12. Other

(https://spreadsheets.google.com/viewform?hl=en&formkey=dEh1UFNKdXYxU2Mzdkg2N1BPN0NNZEE6MQ#gid=0)
Hands-On Learning

- Interactive learning
- In-class activities
  - Group exercises, etc.
- To reinforce instruction
- Computer classrooms
- Examples
In-Class Activities

Interactive Learning

Staggering the Learning...

- Selected Search Terms:
  - Human computer interaction
  - Video games and violence
  - Climate change and public health
  - Cancer and diet
  - Elder abuse
  - Sports injury and prevention
  - Impressionism and art

Directed Learning

Step 2:

Search the catalog to find publications written by Frederick Douglass.

What are some of the publication types you found (e.g. books, e-books, videos)?

What are the locations of the books listed on the first page of results (e.g. online, Fenwick stacks, Prince William campus)?

Do you see a title in the search results that has multiple holdings? If yes, click on the title link. Are any of these items available to check out?
Library Assignments

- 5 writing assignments
- 200-250 words in paragraph form
- 10% of grade
- Blackboard: Add contact & Grade

Purpose: To reflect on lessons from previous library session
Example of Library Assignment

- **Library Session #2: Getting Started OR Now what do I do?—Using Google and the Library InfoGuides**

- **Purpose of this assignment:** Start thinking about information sources and appropriateness for academic research.

- **Writing Assignment:**

  Imagine that you are writing a research paper on a historical figure from your readings (exs: Frederick Douglass, Abraham Lincoln, Rosa Parks). Then answer the following questions.

  Search Google for information on your figure. Look at the first page results/hits. What did you find? Are there academic sites? Commercial, etc.? Would these sources be helpful in writing a scholarly, academic research paper? Why or why not? Please elaborate.
InfoGuide (aka LibGuide)

- One stop shopping for students
  - Class presentations
  - Library writing assignments
  - Additional material: Images, videos, websites, etc.
- Link to InfoGuide from each Blackboard section
- Links to subject-based infoguides
Honors College InfoGuide

http://infoguides.gmu.edu/honors

980 hits as of September 22, 2010
What’s Next...

- Assessment
  - Students
  - Librarians
  - Faculty
  - Teaching Assistants

- Determine what worked & what didn’t

- Adjust involvement to maintain sustainability
Conclusion

- **Issues/Roadblocks**
  - “I think we’re seeing the problems of interdisciplinary communication.” — Dean of College
  - Technology
  - Staffing
  - First-year growing pains

- **Where to go from here?**
  - Maintain involvement based on this progress
  - *BUT* Revamp based on assessment
  - **Option**: Incorporate more online tutorials/videos

- **Benefits**
  - Public Relations/Marketing the Library/Establish relationships
  - Using lessons plans for other instruction when appropriate
Questions/Discussions

- **Contact Information**
  - Jenna Rinalducci: jrinaldu@gmu.edu
  - Liaison Librarian for Honors College & Visual Arts

- **Online Information**
  - Infoguides:
    - Honors College: [http://infoguides.gmu.edu/honors](http://infoguides.gmu.edu/honors)
    - Section for Honors 110
    - Honor 110 TAs: [http://infoguides.gmu.edu/hnrs110tas](http://infoguides.gmu.edu/hnrs110tas)

- Questions?