Adapting Information Literacy Course Materials for International Students

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Adapting Information Literacy Course Materials for International Students

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Georgia International Conference on Information Literacy
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1-minute “think”

How do you address information literacy at your institution?

Where do international students fit in?

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Georgia International Conference on Information Literacy 2020
Observation 1: International student can equal uncomfortable student, but a class of all international students can be a ‘safe space’

Best Practice 1: have students work in groups; emphasize sharing of knowledge, learning together – avoids trap of ‘deficit’ thinking

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Observation 2: recognize differences depending on student background and life situation
Country of origin, context (evening class, community college)

Best Practice 2: let that inform your responses and expectations; work in groups – leverage language (and life) knowledge of various students to help each other learn

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Observation 3: International students may need more language support

Best practice 3: reconsider workflow--
Reading/video for homework with extra support such as outline or notes
Lesson 1 Academic Integrity

- Provide handouts to support input – help develop vocabulary and support learning through enhancing comprehension

- https://youtu.be/Kfmy9dt0Ymc?list=PLejNKcSoYbcCUolvO5r9OY-xO6gHvYiPJ

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Notes sheets to provide framework so can focus on ideas (reduce cognitive load)

Academic Integrity Video 1
Cheating includes:
1.
2.
3.
4.

Plagiarism includes:
1.
2.
3.

Question: Why are these plagiarism?

video 2
When in doubt – CITE. Use a citation that includes the author’s name and the name of the source, when deciding whether to cite or not, ask yourself:
1.
2.
3.
If the answer to these is no, then I do not have to cite

True or false questions – discuss with classmates. Be able to support your answer.
Buying a paper on the internet is plagiarism.
It is OK to use a paper that I wrote for one class as a paper in another class.
If I summarize or paraphrase, I do not need a citation.
I can be thrown out of the university if I plagiarize.
If I am not sure whether to use a citation, I should not because it is bad to use it when it is not necessary.

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Best Practice 4: reconsider workflow: provide extra opportunities in class for review

Review homework readings and online videos in class to ensure comprehension

- have them compare notes sheets
- have them work in pairs examining materials to make up questions for a quiz
- have pairs report on a certain aspect of a topic
  - Different types of bias
  - different aspects of evaluating a source
  - ideas???

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However, in the end – a lot of the things I do for international students I also would do for domestic students because they also come from different backgrounds and have had different experiences as well and are also new to the university.
What do think is the most important issue you face in providing information literacy education to international students?

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Forthcoming Textbook

For more information, contact Kelly Sippell at ksippell@umich.edu
Thank you!