



DELTA COLLEGE LIBRARY

Faculty-Library Connections

Information Literacy

An Instructor's Guide to Library/Research Instruction

The library session will provide your students with basic up-to-date instruction on how to do research using print and electronic materials available through the Delta Library or remotely through off campus Internet connections. Even if some of your students have been to a previous library research instruction session, they are sure to learn something new. The research databases the library subscribes to often change their interfaces and add new features. Likewise, new print sources are constantly added to our collection. Good research takes practice and time and the Delta Library has many resources and services. For now, librarians do not teach at the off-campus sites. Students benefit from visits to the library.

The library session usually includes instruction in:

- Tour of the LLIC
- Using the [Delta Library website](#) as a gateway to resources and services
- Generating keywords/search terms and formulating information questions/thesis statements
- Using the library's online catalog of books and media items
- Using the library research databases to locate magazine, journal, and/or newspaper articles
- Using reference books to find background and summary information
- Using Government Documents
- Evaluating sources for relevance and credibility (including Web sites)

Your session will be tailored to your students' needs and help to build on any previously acquired library research skills they may have. You will be asked to provide information on the students' assignments, the subjects they will be researching, etc. To schedule an instruction class, please call a librarian (Mark, Anne, Carla, or Jennean) at 686-9560 during LLIC business hours.

Following these guidelines will help the librarians better prepare instruction for your classes.

Schedule your classes' research instruction sessions as far in advance as possible, especially if you want to build a certain date into your syllabus. The very latest we can schedule is a week in advance. Other instructors are scheduling research instruction sessions for their classes and there is often competition for dates and times.

Schedule the research instruction session in conjunction with your library-related assignment; that is, bring the students to the library just at the point that they are beginning their research for an essay, speech, or other presentation.

Provide the librarian with the following information:

1. A copy of the assignment
2. Your explanation of the assignment
3. Examples of subjects your students may choose
4. The types of sources you require (e.g. books, journals, newspapers, Web sites, etc.) and how many of each type you require

An average research instruction session lasts an hour.

Plan to bring your class to the Library Instruction classroom (A135), introduce the librarian to your class, and stay in the classroom during the session. Librarians do not schedule research instruction sessions for days when you will not be present.

The librarian who is scheduled to work at the Reference Desk during your library/research instruction session time will teach your class.

Please call if you and your class will not make your scheduled time. Librarians will wait ½ hour and then your class will be canceled and a new appointment will need to be made.