Info Lit Instruction for the Developmental English Course: A Golden Opportunity

Jeff Ellair, UW-Green Bay, Sheboygan Campus
English composition course sequence

- ENG 098 (developmental) - 23% of student placements
- ENG 101 (college-level) - 60%
- ENG 102 (AAS core requirement) - 17%

*Attendee poll
ENG 098 - Library session or not?

- **Cons**
  - Librarian time/availability
  - Course doesn’t include research assignments

- **Pros**
  - Unique course to deliver different content, building across ENG composition course sequence
  - Contact/support for beginning students
  - Exercise-driven session requiring less prep for librarian (right?)
English department learning outcomes for 098: Research & critical thinking

- Begin to understand features of different kinds of published print & electronic sources
- Begin to understand features that demonstrate a source’s credibility
ENG 098 Library session

- 0 time on databases/discovery
- Basic concepts, identification of features & evaluation of various source types
- 100% hands-on & discussion of results, via 3 activities
  - Librarian as guide vs. lecturer
  - Students present findings
  - Improved (forced) student engagement: Librarian preservation important as well as student outcomes
  - Inspired revisions of ENG 101 & ENG 102 sessions
Activity 1: Pre-class “survey”

- I need information on a very current event. I should use a:
  - Book
  - Website
  - Scholarly Journal

- I need a lot of information about the Civil War. I should use a:
  - Magazine Article
  - Newspaper
  - Book

- I am a nurse looking for trends in patient care. I should use a:
  - Trade Journal
  - Book
  - Magazine

- I need a peer-reviewed, research-based source for my paper. I should use a:
  - Book
  - Scholarly Journal
  - Newspaper

- I need information about taxes written for the general public. I should use a:
  - Magazine Article
  - Trade Journal
  - Scholarly Journal
Activity 1: Pre-class “survey”

- I need information on a very current event. I should use a:

  - Website: 91%
  - Scholarly Journal: 8%
  - Book: 1%
Activity 1: Pre-class “survey”

- I need a lot of information about the Civil War. I should use a:
Activity 1: Pre-class “survey”

- I am a nurse looking for trends in patient care. I should use a:
Activity 1: Pre-class “survey”

- I need a peer-reviewed, research-based source for my paper. I should use a:

  - Scholarly Journal: 84%
  - Book: 16%
  - Newspaper: 0%
Activity 1: Pre-class “survey”

- I need information about taxes written for the general public. I should use a:

  - Trade Journal (51%)
  - Magazine Article (37%)
  - Scholarly Journal (12%)
## Activity 2: Source worksheet

Identify the information below about each source. If the information is not available, leave the space blank.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Source</th>
<th>Type of Source (circle one)</th>
<th>Date of Publication</th>
<th>Author’s Name(s) (if many authors, just list two)</th>
<th>Information about the Author(s)</th>
<th>Has Bibliography, or Sources Cited?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Book</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Magazine/Journal</td>
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<td></td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Website</td>
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<td>Book</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Magazine/Journal</td>
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<td>No</td>
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<td>Website</td>
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<td>Book</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Magazine/Journal</td>
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<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Website</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>(Source 4 completed together)</td>
<td>Book</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Magazine/Journal</td>
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<td>No</td>
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<td>Book</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Magazine/Journal</td>
<td></td>
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<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Website</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Activity 3: CRAAP tutorial

Applying the CRAAP Test (Cal. State-Chico)

Your research question is, "What are the social benefits and liabilities for tribes developing casinos on Indian reservations?"

1. Select the source that would likely be more current for your topic.
   A. a book published in 1998 about gaming on American Indian lands
   B. Pechanga.net, Indian gaming news on the Internet

77% (23 of 30) answered correctly
Activity 3: CRAAP tutorial

Your research question is, "What are the social benefits and liabilities for tribes developing casinos on Indian reservations?"

2. Which database would be more likely to point you to articles relevant to your topic?

   A. Sociological Abstracts
   B. Biological Abstracts

90% (27 of 30) answered correctly
Activity 3: CRAAP tutorial

Your research question is, "What are the social benefits and liabilities for tribes developing casinos on Indian reservations?"

3. Which source would likely be more authoritative on your topic?
   A. a peer-reviewed article published in UNLV Gaming Research & Review
   B. an article published in Sports Illustrated

87% (26 of 30) answered correctly
Activity 3: CRAAP tutorial

Your research question is, "What are the social benefits and liabilities for tribes developing casinos on Indian reservations?"

4. Which source is more likely to be accurate?
   A. employment statistics from a newsletter published by a grassroots organization opposed to gambling
   B. employment statistics from the U.S. Department of Labor web site

87% (26 of 30) answered correctly
Activity 3: CRAAP tutorial

Your research question is, "What are the social benefits and liabilities for tribes developing casinos on Indian reservations?“

5. Which source would more likely suit the purpose of your report?
   A. Pechanga.net, Indian gaming news on the Internet
   B. a peer-reviewed article published in UNLV Gaming Research & Review

87% (26 of 30) answered correctly
Activity 3: CRAAP tutorial

- Answered all 5 questions correctly: 57%
- 1 incorrect: 23%
- 2 incorrect: 14%
- 3 incorrect: 3%
- 4 incorrect: 3%
Student feedback

How helpful was today’s class?

31 responses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>3 (9.7%)</td>
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</tr>
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<td>2 (6.5%)</td>
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<td>12 (38.7%)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>8 (25.8%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Student feedback

What was the most important thing you learned from today’s class?
31 responses

• 42% - “Learning how or where to find information about a source.”
• 26% - “Telling the difference between information in books, magazine/journals, and websites.”
• 10% - CRAAP Test
• 6% - “Nothing, knew everything.”

• ENG outcome: Begin to understand features of different kinds of published print & electronic sources
• ENG outcome: Begin to understand features that demonstrate a source’s credibility
Questions?

- Email: jeffrey.ellair@uwc.edu
- Course LibGuide: http://libguides.uwc.edu/c.php?g=479490