Assessing ILO 2 in LIBR B1: Introduction to Research

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On PARR with assessment
LIBR B1 SLOs:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the legal and ethical issues of information, including documentation and plagiarism.
2. Locate relevant information using keywords and controlled vocabulary, Boolean operators, truncation, and other advanced search methods.
3. Evaluate the credibility and quality of information using established criteria.
4. Find a range of sources appropriate for research, including reference materials, books and ebooks, periodical articles, and internet sources.
Plan

- Although LIBR B1 is a research course, students have to communicate throughout!
- The final consists of an annotated bibliography of the 4 best sources they found during the semester and an essay reflecting on their research experience
Assess

The annotations

For each of the 4 best sources that you just cited, you will write an annotation, or a paragraph evaluating why this source is good for college-level research on your topic. You will put a paragraph of evaluation below each of your 4 citations.

To write each evaluation:

- First, list the score that source received on the DAPPR test (you can use the DAPPR score you listed for that source when you found it for Research Log 2, 3, or 4).
- Then, write 1-2 sentences about each aspect of the DAPPR test (one sentence on the Date, one sentence on the Author, one sentence on the Publisher, one sentence on the Purpose, and one sentence on the Relevance). These 1-2 sentences should explain the score you gave your source on that aspect of the DAPPR test, and will help me see why you liked that source so much. Feel free to use the sentences you wrote about your DAPPR score for that source in Research Log 2, 3, or 4, to help you out.
  - You must have at least 1 sentence on each aspect of the DAPPR test.
  - You will end up with 1-2 paragraphs of evaluation for each source.
The reflection essay

Please write an essay in response to the questions below. You must answer all 5 of the questions, and your essay should be at least 1 double-spaced page in length. You do not need to have a thesis, or to use extremely formal language. Instead, I am looking for your genuine thoughts.

1. What was your favorite thing you learned this semester and why?
2. Thinking back to finding your sources for Research Logs 1-3, which was the most difficult type of source for you to find (reference source, internet source, book/ebook, or article)? Why do you think that was?
3. Think about how you chose the 4 sources you put into this portfolio. Why did you choose these sources over your other sources?
4. When you started the evaluation process for your sources, did you find that any of your sources contained bias or came from biased perspectives? Has learning about bias changed the way you view and interpret internet sources, news articles, books, and scholarly journal articles?
5. Finally, do you feel differently about research than you did at the beginning of this semester? If so, how? Do you think that this class has prepared you to do research in your other classes (and for your personal life)?
Assess

Results for the annotations

- 2 (18%) exceeded expectations
- 7 (64%) met expectations
- 0 did not meet expectations
- 2 did not attempt
Sample of Student Work

On the DAPPR Test, I rated this article a 15. Given that it was released in 2017, it is still relevant and up to date in light of my study subject. Patricia C. Stanik is a clinical psychologist with a Ph.D. All of the other writers also have expertise in psychology, making them prepared to undertake study on the psychological effects of gender roles on African American youth. The *British Journal of Developmental Psychology*, a quarterly peer-reviewed academic journal, is the publisher. This article's goal is to educate readers on the psychological impacts of gender on African American adolescents. This article is ideal for my research since it contains a lot of information regarding how african american youth treat lgbtqia+ and gender non conforming people by explaining how both identities psychologically intersect.
Assess

Results for the reflection essay

- 8 (73%) exceeded expectations
- 1 (9%) met expectations
- 0 did not meet expectations
- 2 did not attempt
Sample of Student Work

My favorite thing I learned from this class was about searching techniques and testing if your source is a good article, book, or journal is good for your research. I like this because from what I learned; I can use this in other classes. I know this won't be the last time of me using research techniques because the classes I’ll be taking will be requiring good researched papers. Thinking back from the past assignments, I believe the hardest source to find were eBooks. It was hard because from my search question, I had limited results. There were similar good eBooks that related to my search question, but I didn’t find the perfect eBook. From the best 4 sources I chose to put down on my portfolio, I used the DAPPR score test to determine good sources. The ones I chose had average scores of 14 but one of my articles I found had a perfect score of 15. When I started the Evaluation process for my sources, I did notice some sources I chose were biased and were trying to convince the reader of the writers beliefs and opinions. Me learning about bias internet sources made me feel like the whole internet is filled with people who are biased against something. I’m even biased. You can’t really change the internet and make people unbiased, but you can watch what you read or see on the internet. I do believe this class make me think different about the term research. To be good at research, you’ll need to know the basics. And to be a master at research, you will need to take the time evaluating what you read or see especially the internet. Research to me is important. Without research, you wouldn't get the answer you were looking for, Everyone had to do research to solve a problem an answer a question. The smartest man would be dumb if he didn’t do his research.

I also want to point out this class made me think differently about the Wikipedia website. I heard rumors that Wikipedia is full of untrusted bloggers. I always believed that also because of what my teachers would say about the site and how we can’t use it on our own work. Wikipedia can be used for research, and it is good but not best. They do have a good service when it comes to your searching term. What’s good about it is that you can read about other people’s research on a topic you looked up. I wouldn’t say you’re getting other people’s opinions on Wikipedia, but you’re getting other people’s facts.
Reflect

- This current iteration of the final is the results of 5 or so years of refinement—results are much improved now compared to then!
- Some students still struggled to understand how to express their evaluation of certain aspects of a source
- This was the most successful version of the reflection essay
Refine

- Going to work on the annotations, as always
  - Work more in class on how to write the annotations
  - More instruction on the parts of evaluation students are missing
- Keep the reflection essay as is for now