

LIBR 1101 Syllabus

Academic Research and the Library

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to academic research and the effective use of the library,, using an academic library as a laboratory setting for hands-on experience in the scholarly communication process. The course will provide instruction in the access, evaluation, and utilization of disciplinary literature. Traditional library research techniques will be covered, with an emphasis on modern methods of information retrieval using online capabilities.

Research can be a daunting task for many students. The increasing availability of research resources has allowed for greater coverage of more diverse research topics. However, this same volume of materials tends to increase user confusion. Through a systematic and well-developed search strategy, research can be efficient, effective, and approached in a positive manner. This course will introduce students to basic research methods utilizing paper and electronic resources. To develop and refine research techniques requires practice. Therefore, the class will include a great deal of hands-on experience.

Learning Objectives:

By the end of the semester, an information literate UWG student will be able to:

1. Analyze and articulate the information need and identify appropriate sources of information to meet that need.
2. Understand the intellectual organization of information sources and apply that understanding in accessing information.
3. Effectively and efficiently access, evaluate, select and use needed information.
4. Demonstrate and understanding of the economic, legal and social issues surrounding the use of information.
5. Identify functional areas of a library (both physical and virtual) and demonstrate the relationship to the research process.
6. Create a research product that incorporates appropriate information and research methodology.

Required Text:

George, Mary W. The Elements of Library Research. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2008. ISBN: 978-0-691-13857-2

Grades: The final grade will be based on the following scale:

- 90 – 100 A
- 80 – 89 B
- 70 – 79 C
- 60 – 69 D
- 0 – 59 F

Components of the Final Grade:

- Worksheets
- Application Assignments

- Midterm Exam
- Semester Project
- Final Exam

Course Outline:

Lesson 1--Introduction to Libraries

Lesson 2--Research Process

Lesson 3--Structure of Literature

Lesson 4--Documentation

Lesson 5--Access Tools

Lesson 6--Encyclopedias

Lesson 7--Books

Lesson 8--Introduction to Periodicals

Lesson 9--Newspapers

Lesson 10--Magazines

Lesson 11--Scholarly Journals

Lesson 12--Government Publications

Lesson 13--Internet

Lesson 14--Other Sources

Academic Honesty:

Students are expected to adhere to the highest standards of academic honesty. If plagiarism or another act of academic dishonesty occurs, it will be dealt with in accordance with the academic misconduct policies in the undergraduate catalog. [The UWG Catalog \(Student Handbook\)](#) defines academic dishonesty in Section 2.00 of the Conduct Code.

Please note:

Every section of LIBR 1101 is slightly different, depending on its delivery method and instructors. While we all follow the same rough outline, the curriculum order, assignments, and student responsibilities vary in each section. Please consult your section syllabus or instructor for more information.