



UVI Libraries Instruction Program Outline

Improving student research and critical thinking skills

Teaching faculty and librarians share a common goal: **student success**. We all want students to be able to locate, evaluate, and use information effectively and responsibly¹: a skill set which comprises the focus of UVI's **library instruction program**. Librarians have limited contact through mandatory sessions for General Education Requirement courses each semester—FDS 100, SSC 100, and SCI 100. However, we accept requests from instructors of ALL courses who desire librarian assistance in covering the following areas (and more):

- Translating research topics into search strategies
- Library catalog/internet search skills
- Subject-specific/general database navigation
- Evaluating information sources (i.e. scholarly vs. popular)
- Citation/plagiarism
- **Overcoming library anxiety—it's real!**²

Policies and Procedures

Faculty and librarians will discuss the following details in order to schedule a library instruction session. Shortly thereafter, session details will be confirmed by a librarian via phone and/or e-mail:

1. Instructor presence is required.

- The presence and participation of instructors endorse librarian efforts in this partnership towards student success. If the instructor cannot attend, the session will be rescheduled; unexpected emergencies being the only exception.

2. Research activity/assignment and learning objectives for the requested session

- Please be prepared to share a copy of the syllabus and/or specific research assignment(s) so that we may customize session content. Expected learning outcomes for the session will be discussed³.

3. [At least] two possible dates/times; minimum of two weeks' advance notice required

- This allows for adequate preparation of content/materials and library services coverage during instructional time. Note: Weeks 2-6 of Fall and Spring semesters are typically reserved for block scheduling of General Education course sessions.

4. Course title and current enrollment [to be recorded for internal statistics]

¹ [Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education](#) – Association of College and Research Libraries

² Carlile, H (2007) [The Implications of Library Anxiety for Academic Reference Services: A Review of the Literature](#). *Australian Academic & Research Libraries*, 2007-Jun. (Full text also available [here](#).)

³ Timing with respect to assignments/research activity is also crucial. Librarians often observe that students are motivated by a sense of *relevance in context*. The combination of a library session geared towards a specific assignment tends to more effectively harness their attention than a generic "Here is the library and this is what you need to know about it." session.

Additional Resources

Upon request, librarians can set appointments to consult with individuals or groups of students. We can also provide electronic library guides, create content within BlackBoard courses, offer suggestions for new/revised research assignments, and other solutions to supplement or substitute for live sessions.

Contact Us

Librarian liaisons assigned to each school/college may be contacted directly to schedule instruction sessions; see list below. For specific questions about the library instruction program, please speak with your respective campus coordinator: Mrs. Celia Richard (STX) or Ms. Tanisha Mills (STT). We look forward to working with you to make the libraries common routes on UVI's Pathways to Greatness!

School of Business – [Mrs. Celia Richard](#) (STX)

School of Education – [Mrs. Wenda Stephenson](#) (STX)

School of Nursing – [Ms. Tanisha Mills](#) (STT)

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Liberal Arts Department – [Ms. Ashley Till](#) (STJ/STT); Mr. [Elroy Richard](#) (STX)

Social Sciences Department – [Ms. Sherna Gumbs](#) (STT); [Mr. Elroy Richard](#) (STX)

College of Science and Mathematics – [Ms. Tanisha Mills](#) (STT)