Reimagining a Standard One-Shot with Critical Information Literacy: Diversity within Google, the Deep Web and Library Databases

CCLI
May 3, 2019
University of San Francisco
Hello!

I’m Robin D. Lang

Instructional Services Librarian
Point Loma Nazarene University
San Diego, CA

rlang@pointloma.edu
Learning Outcomes

Participants will be able to . . .

1. formulate questions rooted in critical information literacy.

2. synthesize critical information literacy concepts with standard one-shot library instruction.
Critical information literacy, as expressed by its literature, examines the social construction and political dimensions of information, and problematizes information development, use, and purposes with the intent of prompting students to think critically about such forces and act upon this knowledge (Tewell, 2015).
Why Critical Information Literacy?

○ ALA’s *Core Values of Librarianship*:
  ○ Diversity
  ○ Social responsibility

○ It’s our reality
  ○ Students should be able to see themselves appropriately reflected in the research they conduct throughout their educations
  ○ We promote resources that perpetuate systemic oppression
Non-Hispanic whites are projected to become less than half of the U.S. population by 2055 and 46% by 2065. No racial or ethnic group will constitute a majority of the U.S. population (Pew Research Center, 2015).
Information Literacy Instruction with the Writing Composition Program (WRI110 & WRI116)

Research as Inquiry: Library Research Session #1

- Research is iterative and depends upon asking increasingly complex or new questions whose answers in turn develop additional questions or lines of inquiry in any field.

Authority Is Constructed and Contextual: Library Research Session #2

- Information resources reflect their creators’ expertise and credibility, and are evaluated based on the information need and the context in which the information will be used... It is contextual in that the information need may help to determine the type of authority required.
The Assignment

Provide the information necessary for citing an online source in MLA format:

Author(s): 

Article/page title: 

Overall site title: 

Publisher/sponsor (if different from site title): 

Publication/update date: Access date (if no pub. date is given): 

URL: 

Is it relevant? Explain how this source relates to your research topic. What does it add to your understanding of the subject you have chosen to research?

Is it authoritative? Provide three specific clues about the author, publisher/sponsor, or the information itself that demonstrate the credibility of this source. Explore the qualifications of the author or sponsoring organization and look for evidence that the information is accurate and up to date.

Applying MLA Format
Select one of the four sources listed in this assignment and create a complete MLA citation for that item. Consult your course text, the library citation cheat sheets, and outside resources like the OWL at Purdue for instructions. Search for additional information if your citation requires it. Write your citation carefully and legibly:
I found it in the library.

It was published.

It has multiple authors.

It was at the top of my Google results list.
Session #1: Examples of Problematic LCSH

- Illegal alien
- Jewish question
- Yellow peril
- Oriental
- Women as Accountants
Session #2: Finding Scholarly Articles

● The peer-review process
  ○ Ask who gets to be a scholar and who doesn’t?
  ○ Who might the peer-review process exclude?
● The scholarly publishing model
● Recent publisher boycotts
● Information has Value
Think-Pair-Share

Questions:

- What type of company is Google/Alphabet?
- Who is Google’s primary customer?
- When thinking about your answers, what other questions come to mind?

1. Take a moment to think of your response to these questions. (2 min.)
2. Partner with another person or two nearby and share your answers. (3 mins.)
3. One person from each group shares your answers. (5 min.)
The Internet Iceberg

Open Access on the Surface Web
- PubMed
- ERIC
- .edu
- .gov

Deep Web
- Bank accounts
- Social media
- Some blogs
- Medical records
- Transcripts
- Library databases

Surface Web: Google

Deep Web

Dark Web
- Drug trade
- Human trafficking
- Porn
- Organ trade
- Hiring a hitman
- BitCoin
- Other illegal activities

Diagram featured by poweredtemplate.com
“Under the current algorithmic constraints or limitations, commercial search does not provide appropriate social, historical, and contextual meaning to already overracialized and hypersexualized people who materially suffer along multiple axes” (Noble, 2018).
Google Search: Common Misconceptions
(The Wizard of Oz as pictured in *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* by L. Frank Baum. Retrieved from https://commons.m.wikimedia.org/.)
Thanks!

Any questions?

You can find me at:
rlang@pointloma.edu
References


