Integrating Zines into Online Teaching

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Slides: bit.ly/CCLIzines
My Context

Our collections
Synchronous Online Teaching
Me!
The Classes
The Value of Zines in Info Lit Instruction

Authority is Constructed and Contextual
Consider authority and expertise beyond the traditional information practices

Information Has Value
How self-publishing can give agency and voice to creators often overlooked by traditional publishing mechanisms

Students as Creators
Students are potential creators with valuable stories and expertise that are worth sharing
A Class Example: Lesson Outline

**Welcome:** Introductions and class plan.

**Defining Zines:** Create a shared definition of zines as a class.

**Evaluating Zines:** In breakout rooms, have students discuss a zine. Debrief as an entire class.

**Finding Zines:** Discuss where to find zines.

**Submitting Zines:** How to submit zines to the Library's collection.

**Reflection:** Have students reflect on what they learned.

Class Exercise: Defining Zines

What is a zine? What are some words you use to define a zine?

- No Rules
- A small book that can be about anything you can imagine
- Short punk rock sort of magazine
- Accessible, inexpensive (usually?)
- Short Political magazine
- A mini magazine! Easy to make.
- A short magazine usually from a smaller homemade publisher/publication
- Kind of like a photo or art book but smaller/cheaper
- An artsy, interactive magazine (usually socially conscious/political)
- Identity, sharing info visually
# Class Exercise: Evaluating Zines

**Zine 1:**

| What is the topic of this zine? Can you tell if there is an intended audience? Who might read or use a zine like this? | Can you tell who the author(s) of this zine is? What sort of authority do they have on this subject? How is the author's identity emphasized (or not) in this zine? | How does the way information presented in this differ from other published works? (books, scholarly articles, news stories, etc.) | How does the content of this zine engage (or not) in cultural and social issues? |
Other Teaching with Zine Ideas!

**Evaluating Sources**
Add a zine as one of multiple source types in an evaluating activity.

**Primary Sources**
Zines are perfect for illustrating a moment of time from an individual's or group's POV.

**Zine Making**
Have students make zines about their research, lives, or an infolit topic.
Tips For Using Zines in Teaching

Tip #1
Don’t take for granted students know what zines are.

Tip #2
Give warnings that zines can contain sensitive subjects.

Tip #3
Be mindful about your digitization of the zines.
Thank you!

Questions?

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Access slides: bit.ly/CCLIzines
References and Resources

Resources:

Barnard College’s list of Digital Zine Libraries

MICA’s list of Online Zine Resources

Zinelibraries.info: Resources for zine librarians

Electronic Zine Maker

References:


