Supporting Curricular and Co-curricular Needs at the Campus Library

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Conference on The First-Year Experience
February 22, 2020
Library’s Role in Student Success

- **What:** Library/Research Anxiety
- **Why:** Libraries and the First-Year Experience
- **How:** Information Seeking Skills and Research Support
Greensburg Campus
Freshman Cornerstone

- Photo Safari activity adapted from Johnstown
- Helps navigate spaces & services in library
- With permission, posted on social media
Freshman Cornerstone

- Citation anxiety
- Pop culture reference
- Highlight sources of help
Research Consultations

30-minute individual or group appointments tailored to students’ research
Research Consultations

“...students find these sessions very helpful...they find better quality primary literature and are therefore more successful when developing their own research projects...

...our librarians partner with the students and really understand their needs on our campus.”

-- Dr. Olivia Long, Associate Professor of Biochemistry, Pitt-Greensburg
Outreach: Activities Fair

- Presence among student groups
- Most first-year students required to attend
Outreach

The library’s Magic Festival was a collaboration with student groups.

Our participation raised awareness of library services and our role on campus to first-year and other students.

Students watched faculty model civil discussion.
Johnstown Campus
Teach with the Library
(collaboration with faculty)

● English Composition 1
  o Photo Safari (removed)
  o Evaluating Information (frmly Comp 2)
  o Constructing Keyword Searches (frmly Comp 2)

● English Composition 2
  o Developing a Research Question (added)
  o Understanding Citations (added)
  o Research Workshop (kept)
Flipped Learning Tutorials

Composition 1 & 2: Constructing Keyword Searches Tutorial

Keywords versus Natural Language

When searching for information, what are keywords? (required)

Why use keywords? The words used to search a library database or an internet search engine will determine both the amount of results retrieved and the relevance of what is retrieved by your search.

Most internet search engines, like Google, allow you to search using natural language. This means that you can simply enter a search question, e.g., “How does media affect body image?” just like you ask it and you'll get results.

Do the same search in a library database and you'll retrieve few results or even none at all. You generally need to use keywords to search library databases.

Test What You've Learned

Let's test what you've learned!

What are keywords? (required)

When you choose the keywords to enter in your search, what do you need to figure out? (required)

- What the topic is
- How other people refer to your topic
- Which Boolean operators to use
- Not sure

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Outreach to Students

Personal Librarians @ Pitt-Johnstown
YOUR FIRST CONTACT FOR ANYTHING LIBRARY

All new Pitt-Johnstown students have a Personal Librarian to help with library questions during your first year:

- How to navigate the library
- Finding books & journal articles
- Research assignments
- And more!

Watch your Pitt email for messages from your personal librarian!
Outreach

Dog Therapy Stress Relief

Instagram post to promote Game Night

Open House at beginning of semester

Research Consultations
First-year Orientation

Tips for Navigating Owen Library - Johnstown Campus: About the Library

Don't get lost in Owen Library! Learn how to find and access various resources & services available at Owen Library or through Pitt's University Library System.

Welcome to Owen Library

Part of the University Library System, Owen Library on the University of Pittsburgh's Johnstown Campus provides access to a vast array of information resources.

Ask a Question

When you do research for your classes, you shouldn't hesitate to ask a librarian for assistance. Determining which resources you should choose, knowing how to search them, and being able to incorporate the newly found information into your paper are skills you will need to learn. Becoming a savvy researcher may take a while. In the meantime, you can count on the librarians to help guide you through the research process.

You can connect with a librarian by . . .

- stopping at the Information Desk on the 1st floor of the Library
- calling (814) 269-7200 during regular library hours
- scheduling a personal research consultation in advance
- or, asking a question by email or the IM chat box.

Library Collections & Locations

When searching the online catalog, be sure to note the collection location of the item as well as its call number. Your valid University of Pittsburgh ID card is your library card. Present it to borrow circulating materials and for certain in-library services.

REFERENCE COLLECTION: 1st Floor, near the public computers. Includes abstracts and
International Student Orientation

Library Terms to Know . . .

ULS = University Library System
Circulation = the activities around library books and other materials
Check out = the act of borrowing materials
Call Number = the number that identifies the subject and where it is located on the shelves. Owen Library uses the Library of Congress call no. system.
Course Reserves = course materials loan periods.

PASSPORT to STUDY

Owen Library www.library.pitt.edu/johnstown

Journey 2:
Searching for study information

Search PittCat+. The online library catalog, for a book about plagiarism. What is the title?

Is it available at Johnstown? Yes/ No

If No, which library in the ULS has it?

Journey 4:
Finding resources for study


What is the title?

Journey 8:
Have a question?

At the Information Desk, say hello to the friendly library staff and receive a Welcome gift bag.

Congratulations! You have completed your library travels. Please return to Room 208 to share the tales of your experience.
Academic Foundations Class
Library Visits

• Information Literacy pre-class assignment

• Fall 2019 re-vamp- shift to active classroom introduction

• Assessment: Changes in student and instructor feedback
Student and instructor feedback

I assumed the library was just a bunch of books and a place to study. Now I know it’s a lot more.

The most useful was learning about the mobile study lab because I’m failing Chem and need to go.

This presentation was way better than last year’s. The interactive tour made it more accessible.

It exposed me to all the services available here like the study rooms. I will not be confused next time I come in.
Collaborative Events in the Library

- Study Break/ Long Night Against Procrastination
Escape Room 2019
Outreach Beyond the Library!

- Interactive tabling and presentations
- Supporting Residence Life
- Support First-Year students and their families
Recap

- What, Who, and How to address Library and Research Anxiety
- Challenges
- Collaboration
References


Questions?

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Please remember to submit your evaluation on Guidebook!

#FYE20