THROUGH A PANDEMIC AND BEYOND

Reaching First-Year Students Wherever They Are

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RUSA First Year Experience Interest Group

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University of **Pittsburgh**

Moving Online?

Take a Librarian

University of Pittsburgh introduced the Hyflex model at all five campuses

Librarians working from home

Majority of our Greensburg campus students preferred learning online

How do we engage meaningfully with first-year students in the online environment?

First Year Group Work

Locating Articles in Databases
Cornerstone/Seminar @ Millstein Library
library.pitt.edu

Work with your group to answer these questions about your assigned database.

1. Write a brief description of the database. (Hint: look at the short description given on the A-Z Databases page to answer this question).

2. Now begin a s

3. Start a new se

4. Add one of yo
   "modify searc

Using PittCat to Find Books
Cornerstone/Seminar @ Millstein Library
library.pitt.edu

So many books – how can you get the ones you really need? Work with your group to answer these questions:

1. Type "food" into

2. Now limit your re

3. In the search box
   you run this searc

4. Locate one of eac

Developing Your Research Topic
Cornerstone/Seminar @ Millstein Library

General Research Topic is Food & Nutrition.

1. As with most topics, there are many areas that could be researched: scientific, legal, social, economic, political… With your group, talk about your interests and decide on keywords, and alternatives (synonyms) to those keywords, to narrow down this topic.

   Examples: GMO – Altered Foods, Organic Food – Natural Food

   Keyword 1:   Alternative Keyword 1:

   Keyword 2:   Alternative Keyword 2:

Just Keep Swimming

2020's quick pivot to online work was followed by:

University-wide switch to Canvas from Blackboard

Library system upgrade to Alma/Primo

Redesign of all Pitt library websites

To help instructors adjust, we asked for only one session with each first-year seminar section plus...

LibWizard tutorials created for Canvas (LMS) module

- Shared via Canvas Commons
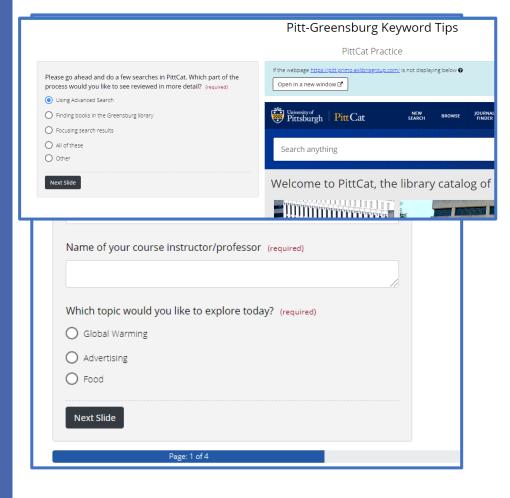- Students asked to complete before their session with librarians
- Citation Exercise and Keyword Exercise

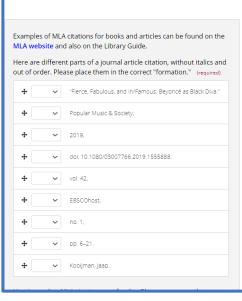**We'll continue at least one of these in the fall**

- Avoids awkward/unknown social distancing group work situation
- Provides more time for answering questions or discussion
- Instructors approved: "I really like that there are pre-class activities."

Online Tutorials to the Rescue

First Year Flipped Tutorials

Pitt-Greensburg Keyword Tips

PittCat Practice

Please go ahead and do a few searches in PittCat. Which part of the process would you like to see reviewed in more detail? (required)

- Using Advanced Search
- Finding books in the Greensburg library
- Focusing search results
- All of these
- Other

Next Slide

If the webpage https://pitt.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/ is not displaying below

Open in a new window

University of Pittsburgh | Pitt Cat — NEW SEARCH — BROWSE — JOURNAL FINDER

Search anything

Welcome to PittCat, the library catalog of

Name of your course instructor/professor (required)

Which topic would you like to explore today? (required)

- Global Warming
- Advertising
- Food

Next Slide

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Pitt-Greensburg Understanding Citations

MLA Citation Examples

Examples of MLA citations for books and articles can be found on the MLA website and also on the Library Guide.

Here are different parts of a journal article citation, without italics and out of order. Please place them in the correct "formation." (required)

- "Fierce, Fabulous, and In/Famous: Beyoncé as Black Diva."
- Popular Music & Society,
- 2019,
- doi: 10.1080/03007766.2019.1555888.
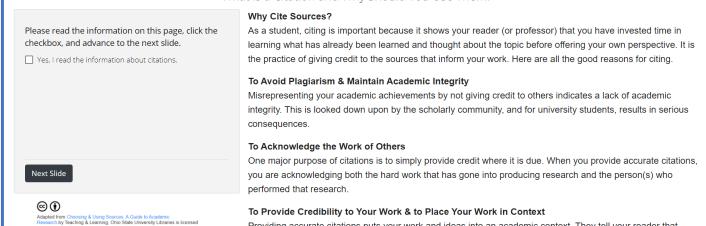- vol. 42,
- EBSCOhost,
- no. 1,
- pp. 6–21.
- Kooijman, Jaap.

Below are some examples of MLA style citations. **Note:** Some instructors may require access dates for websites or other pieces of information. Please check with your instructor if you have any questions.

Material Type	Works Cited
Book in print	Card, Claudia. *The Atrocity Paradigm: A Theory of Evil*. Oxford UP, 2005.
eBook	Gaither, Milton. *Homeschool: An American History*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2017. *SpringerLink*, doi-org.pitt.idm.oclc.org/10.1057/978-1-349-95056-0.
An article in a print journal	Doggart, Julia. "Minding the Gap: Realizing Our Ideal Community Writing Assistance Program." *The Community Literacy Journal*, vol. 2, no. 1, 2007, pp. 71-80.
An article in an electronic journal	Sherrard-Johnson, Cherene. "'A Plea for Color': Nella Larsen's Iconography of the Mulatta." *American Literature*, vol. 76, no. 4, 2004, pp. 833-869, doi: 10.1215/00029831-76-4-833.

Pitt-Greensburg Understanding Citations

What is a Citation and Why Should You Use Them?

Please read the information on this page, click the checkbox, and advance to the next slide.

- Yes, I read the information about citations.

Next Slide

Why Cite Sources?

As a student, citing is important because it shows your reader (or professor) that you have invested time in learning what has already been learned and thought about the topic before offering your own perspective. It is the practice of giving credit to the sources that inform your work. Here are all the good reasons for citing.

To Avoid Plagiarism & Maintain Academic Integrity

Misrepresenting your academic achievements by not giving credit to others indicates a lack of academic integrity. This is looked down upon by the scholarly community, and for university students, results in serious consequences.

To Acknowledge the Work of Others

One major purpose of citations is to simply provide credit where it is due. When you provide accurate citations, you are acknowledging both the hard work that has gone into producing research and the person(s) who performed that research.

To Provide Credibility to Your Work & to Place Your Work in Context

Providing accurate citations puts your work and ideas into an academic context. They tell your reader that you've done your research and know what others have said about your topic. Not only do citations provide

Welcome to the Library

-- at Home!

- Photo tour of the library part of online tutorial

- Books & DVDs: No-contact pickup and ship to home

- Outreach at (virtual) campus events
  - Participated in panel discussions
  - Attended meetings and student presentations

- Reference help available:
  - Consultations scheduled online
  - Librarians staffed a chat for immediate questions, but discontinued
  - Staff onsite contacted librarians to work with patrons as needed

Making Connections Online

Canvas Modules

LibGuides LTI for Canvas

- Default page set up with IT department
- Class-specific guide or general research guide for our campus

Research help & appointments with librarians

- LibCal integration with Zoom
- Google, Microsoft alternatives
- Zoom office hours

These Unprecedented Times

In-person instruction will return in the fall, but it's unknown what (if any) restrictions will be in place.

We're planning anyway! There are lots of considerations…

Where Can We…
Meet with Students?

Research Collaboratory room is small

- Ventilation is not great

- Seating may be too close

The Plan: Utilize Other Spaces

- Identify other potential meeting locations, such as a small computer lab, group study rooms and the former library classroom

- Continue offering virtual consultations

- Consider meeting outdoors or in other locations on campus

Where Can We…

Meet with Students?

Where Can We…

Teach First-Year Seminar?

Pandemic impact felt in the library classroom

- It's too small

- The ventilation is problematic

- In a perfect world, we would create a new space in time for fall

- Getting these students in the library is a top priority

The Plan: Be Flexible!

- Teach one or both sessions in the students' classroom

- Visit the library for a tour for part of the second session

- Asynchronous tutorials will help us make the most of class time!

The hope is a swing space will come together before the end of August.

Where Can We… Teach First-Year Seminar?

Where Can We...

Reach Second Year Students New to Campus?

- Many second-year students were not on campus last year

- They won't be visiting the library for first-year seminar because they have already taken that class

- They are not "first year" students but this will be their first semester on campus

The Plan: Step Up Outreach!

- Dining Hall: Messaging on digital screens

- Residence Halls: Partner with RAs on tear-strip fliers

- Social Media: Build following with student takeovers & more

Where Can We…

Reach Second Year Students New to Campus?

Questions?

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