

[Title slide]

[Image of Reading Room – Slide 2]

A reading room full of researchers – a goal of modern archives

Archives, to know them is to love them, or at least not be afraid of them.

What follows is the work of my colleagues and I at the University of Oregon to make research in primary sources an integral part of the information literacy program.

[Information literacy and archives – Slide 3]

Mary provided a rich explanation of the standards, outcomes, and best practices of information literacy.

One of the outcomes of information literacy competency standards is the ability to know the difference between primary and secondary sources.

However, the fundamental standards and outcomes in information literacy are found throughout the access and use of archives, as we all know.

- Find, evaluate, and make use of information
- Promote critical thinking and advanced research skills

This was a start, but we wanted to do more →

[Information Literacy and the UO – slide 4]

Info. Lit program at UO – 2002-2003

- 667 presentations to groups
- 9734 participants in group presentations
- 55 professional staff

Ongoing work to incorporate primary sources into curriculum

- Library instruction course
- Bibliographic instruction with a traditional undergraduate course

[Primary Sources – Course Development – Slide 5]

Perceived need

- Demands
  - Increase requirements in final papers
  - Centerpiece of honors college thesis
  - Interest from departments & professors during development phase.
- Personnel
  - Myself: PS lectures for LIB 101
  - Heather Ward: LIB 101 & bibliographic instruction courses
- Objectives
  - Students will learn how to access & use a variety of PS
    - Learning how collected and organized
    - Effectively using access tool to find relevant PS materials
    - Learning the unique requirements for accessing archival materials
  - Students will be able to incorporate PS into their research
    - Critically assess and select relevant sources
    - Learning to place PS in their context
- Plans
  - Research – similar classes
  - Requirements of brand new courses
  - Cross-listing
  - Publicity blitz

[Picture of Class – Slide 6]

Demographics: 13 students,  
 6 seniors, 3 juniors, 1 sophomore, 2 postbac/continuing  
 3 history, 2 journalism, 2 psych/soc, international relations,  
 poli. Sci., women & gender, French

[Teaching LIB 399 – Slide 7]

Brief description of course: repositories & collections, access tools, formats, materials handling, ethics, FOIA, government information, censorship

Brief description: final project – collection description and a research paper based on collection.

Information literacy outcomes and the class experience

- Knowledge of context
- Clear understanding of creator and biases
- Ability to evaluate sources

Addressing different modes of teaching and learning

- Hands on – class to sources, or sources to class
- Questions to prepare in advance of class, based on readings or for speakers
- Pair, share & report / small groups
- Oral presentations – large & small
- Written assignments
- Video/audio

[LIB 399 What worked, what did not? – Slide 8]

Successes

- Access
  - T – increased PS awareness
  - S - Getting into the archives – wanted even more time
- Involvement
  - T - Student interaction
  - T - Class Discussions
    - Make it specific, “what if?”
  - S – Archives in the news
  - S- Discussion time
- Skills & Information Gained
  - S – Guest Speakers
  - S – Breadth of Information covered

Student Quotes

“Internalize the materials and practiced what we learned in class.”

“Taught me things I would have never have known – recommend.”

Areas for Improvement

Mechanics

Group project

Some of the assigned readings tedious

Large monitors in classroom  
 Paper quality  
 Caution: If looking for processed collections, not realistic

[LIB 399: Future Plans – Slide 9]

We will teach the class again  
 Hopefully winter 2005  
 Discussions of how class worked  
 Building upon experience  
 Include speakers with research experience outside of history  
 More hands on work  
 More small group discussion  
 Clarify expectations of final project

[Picture of Peace & War – slide 10]

[the University in Peace & War – slide 11]

Brief description of course  
 Examine the campus during the protests of the 1970s and  
 comparing it to the political atmosphere

Role in Course  
 Made unprocessed collections available  
 BI to class with ongoing consultation on resources  
 Final project presentations  
 Conclusions from their research experience

What worked  
 Breadth of uses of sources  
 Limited to one year  
 Course “archives” constructed using Blackboard  
 Student interaction during research

What didn't work  
 As with many BI opportunities  
 Not as integrated into course development  
 Expectations of professors re: access & operation  
 Low quality scans from photocopies

## Future plans

Preparing ahead

Tackling earlier years preceding student unrest

[Conclusion – Slide 12]

These were two different examples of integrating PS research skills into a curriculum

They have greatly raised awareness of PS within the info. Literacy program, as well as within the university with both students and faculty.

Progress is gradual but positive and we hope to build upon these projects by refining them and creating other opportunities.

Time investment was large, but pay off equal to it.

“Thank you for teaching this class. It has been a very valuable learning experience for me. I think this class ought to be a required course for new students and all majors.”