

WML Information Literacy Instruction Assessment 2023-24 Classroom Activity Report

Faculty Librarian: Elin Woods

Semester: Spring 2024

Course Number and Name: BIOL 250: Microbiology (*Lab-EP*)

Course Instructor (Last Name): Hague

Date(s) of Information Literacy Instruction: 1/30/2024

Time(s) of Information Literacy Instruction: 2:30-3:45pm

Location: LSC 113

Number of Students Registered in Course: 28

Summary of research assignment or task

Students are to sign up for journal email alerts to support a semester-long assignment where students will write a popular print piece reporting on new research in the area of microbiology to a general audience. This will also support a later oral presentation on the research to the class. The resources used in the class were Royal Search and specific databases related to the field to find “cutting edge” research.

Classroom Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) – at least one, no more than three

SLO 1: As a result of this information literacy instruction, students will become more familiar with databases and journals associated with the field of microbiology.

SLO 2: As a result of this information literacy instruction, students will know how to sign up for publications alerts within specific journals and databases regarding their research topic.

How will you know how students are doing as they work toward meeting these outcomes?

I could email the professor to ask how the assignment went throughout different stages of the process to make sure students were able to access the databases and the sign up for the alerts.

Based on your experience teaching this class and any assessment of student work you were able to do, what can you change next time to improve how you teach it? Or, what was successful that you want to be sure to do again the next time you teach it?

Once I was in the class, I had a better understanding of what was being asked. When engaging with the students it became clear they were relatively versed in conducting research.

For future iterations of this class, I would want to set aside more workshop time where students would actively sign up for alerts in the class and provide better how-to guides for them to take with them in class, but also consider organizing a LibGuide in support of this particular assignment and its unique components in needing to know how to find sources and how to gather more information through alerts.

Information Literacy Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) – at least one, no more than four – this information literacy instruction supports

PLO4: Students will articulate the key elements in their research questions in order to develop and execute a search strategy.

PLO5: Students will share ideas responsibly in a variety of formats and contexts in order to recognize themselves as knowledge creators.