The Topic Menu

A “take-out” approach to information literacy marketing

Emily Kasuto
Liaison Librarian
Schulich Library of Science and Engineering
McGill University
May 2010
Topics

• Background & Problem:
  – Description of service ("Research Group Sessions")

• Topic Menu:
  – Description & examples
  – Topic Menu for Research Group Sessions

• Future plans

• Questions
Background: about the service

Research Group Sessions

– Research group: Masters/PhD/Postdocs all studying under one professor

– Sessions are designed to be short (15 minutes/topic)
Problem

Original promotional strategy: E-mail to departmental listserv... little interest generated

Needed a new strategy...
Description:
A listing of information literacy offerings, generally used to promote in-class sessions

How it works:
Faculty select topics from the menu, where “cost” is provided in minutes
Welcome to the Undergraduate Library Instruction Bistro

Please select from the plates below the most appropriate option for your Rhetoric class. List that plate on your Library Instruction Request.

Perfect for refining your student’s research palates!

Small plates.  Perfect for the 50 minute class!

Large plates.  Perfect for the 75 minute class!

Nutritional information.  Find an explanation of the content on each of our plates.
### Instruction a la Carte Menu

**What is this?**

Not sure what we can teach, or how long a topic will take? The below list shows our most popular topics. This is not an exhaustive list; if you would like other resources or topics addressed, we'd be happy to discuss the options with you.

We have two "menus": one is a general list that is applicable to any class *(For All Classes)*, and one that lists offerings for students with some basic library research skills *(For Upper Level Classes)*. We also have a list of *other options* for our Univ 100 and Core A classes.

**Topics and Time Requirements**

#### For All Classes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Will your students need to...[time required]</th>
<th>Points Covered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Develop a search strategy? (highly recommended) [10 minutes] | Brainstorming a topic  
Narrowing topics  
Identifying keywords and synonyms |
| Understand citations? [20 minutes] | Identifying different parts of article citations  
Basic introduction to accessing full text articles from print and online citations |
| Use the library's catalog to look for books or DVDs? [10 minutes] | Finding books and videos on a topic  
Accessing electronic books  
Using call numbers to locate items in the building |
About Research Group Sessions

Description

The tools for finding information are constantly evolving. Learn to make better use of the tools you already use, or learn something new!

Where would the session be held?

It’s up to you—I can come to you, or we can book one of the Schulich Library’s e-classrooms.

What do I have to do?

Fill in this form (in print or electronically):

Step 1: Select one or more topics from the “Topic Menu” (15 minutes each topic).

Step 2: Indicate your contact information.

Step 3: Click “Submit by e-mail”; send the completed form via internal mail, or contact me:

Emily Kasuto,
Liaison Librarian
Tel: 514-398-1273
Fax: 514-398-3903
Email: emily.kasuto@mcmill.ca

Topic Menu
(15 minutes each topic)

ARTICLE DATABASES
- Compendex (Engineering)
- Web of Science (Multidisciplinary)
- SCOPUS (Multidisciplinary)
- SciFinder Scholar (Chemical)
- Materials Research Database with METADEX
- Medline (via Ovid or PubMed)
- Google Scholar
- Other __________________________

LIBRARY CATALOGUE
- Demo of the new catalogue (WorldCat)
- Finding e-books

RSS FEEDS/ALERTS
- Staying ahead

ENDNOTE
- Short demo (15 minutes)
- Full session (1.5 hours)

SEARCHING AND ACCESSING “GREY LITERATURE”
- Patents
- Theses/Dissertations
- Technical reports
- Standards

INTERLIBRARY LOAN/DOCUMENT DELIVERY
- Getting articles/books not available at McGill

LIBX TOOLBAR
- Demo of LibX toolbar (search our library resources from any website)

OR...
Tell me what you’d like to learn more about...

Contact Information

NAME:

Preferred method of contact

EMAIL:

PHONE:

Submit by e-mail
Future plans

• Research Group Sessions:
  – 15 minute time limit/topic was restrictive
  – Service will be expanded to other departments
  – Gather feedback

• Topic Menu:
  – Posted to department’s website
  – Add descriptive captions
  – Menu offerings will change on a regular basis
  – Gather feedback
Questions