

Information Literacy Assessment Project

J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College • Spring 2012

Background

In Spring 2012, the English Department, working with the JSRCC Libraries, will conduct an assessment of student learning outcomes in information literacy in ENG112 classes. Participating faculty will incorporate seven Research Guide modules developed by JSRCC research librarians into their ENG112 sections. Additionally, participating students will take the pre-test at the start of the semester; they will complete the post-test at the end of Spring semester. Each module also contains self-assessments that allow students to measure their progress and learning within each of the seven modules. Faculty are encouraged to integrate the seven self-assessments as well in their courses.

Integration of the Research Guide Modules

The seven modules, the pre- and post-tests, and the seven self-assessments will be made available to faculty through Blackboard (Bb). Faculty who are teaching face-to-face or hybrid sections are asked to integrate the modules directly into their Bb course sites, in the same way that distance faculty will be doing. Students should complete all of the assessments through Bb; the results of the pre- and post-tests and the self-assessments will be visible in the course gradebook.

Participating faculty have been added as Teaching Assistants to the Information Literacy Bb course site. The Research Guides can be copied directly into ENG112 course sites by taking the following steps:

1. Log into Blackboard.
2. Locate the Information Literacy Assessment Project Spring 2012 course site and open the course.
3. Go to Control Panel > Packages and Utilities > Course Copy.
4. Locate "Destination Course ID" and browse to identify your Spring 2012 ENG112 section. If you have more than one ENG112 section, you will need to repeat the procedure for each course.
5. In Course Copy, select
 - "Content Areas," which will also select the one button ("Information Literacy Project") that contains all seven modules and assessments.
 - "Grade Center Columns and Settings"
 - "Tests, Surveys and Pools"
6. Click Submit

The Information Literacy Project will be copied as a button into your ENG112 site, and you will receive a confirmation email when the copy is complete. You are encouraged to rename the button to suit your particular language for students. Gradebook settings for the assessments will also be copied into your gradebook. You are also encouraged to modify the language within the "Instructions" to suit your own class and its unique schedule.

Recommendations

Although the Pre- and Post-Test and Self-Assessments result in numerically-valued grades in your gradebook, it is recommended that you do not ascribe “grades” for these efforts in your own calculations of student grades. Treating the **completion** of these assignments, rather than placing value upon the actual score, will likely enable students to value the personal learning benefits that they are receiving through the completion of the modules. One suggestion is to integrate the completion of assessments as part of the participation grade.

End of the Semester Procedures

At the end of the semester, please download your gradebook into an Excel file, delete columns relevant to your class, and forward to Ghazala Hashmi (ghashmi@reynolds.edu) the spreadsheet with the following columns:

- Student Name
- Student Empl ID
- Pre-Test
- Self-Assessments
- Post-Test

Please contact Ghazala Hashmi if you need any assistance with this procedure.