VISION

The Cypress College Library instruction program offers research and research-related instruction in a variety of formats, using creative methods to engage students and provide for their diverse literacy needs and demands.

PHILOSOPHY

This program is first and foremost guided by the learning styles and habits of Cypress College students. The program is also aligned with national Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education of the Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL), a division of the American Library Association (ALA). Regional standards are taken into consideration when applicable.

TYPES OF INSTRUCTION

LIB 100 C: Introduction to Research

Library 100 is a one-unit class designed to introduce students to traditional and electronic library research tools and resources including the Internet. Students learn how to develop research strategies that will enable them to locate, retrieve, analyze, evaluate, and cite appropriate resources on a given topic. Each student will compile and prepare a written bibliography of relevant sources on a topic. This class has been taught face-to-face, online, and as a hybrid.

Research Instruction/Orientations

Course-related, single-session instruction that is requested by classroom faculty and that takes place during the regular class meeting time. To the extent possible, these sessions are tailored to fit specific research assignments.

Research Consultation Appointments

Students and faculty may request an appointment with a librarian to get detailed assistance with their research questions. It is also possible for small groups of students, especially those working on a group project, to make an appointment with a librarian.

Reference Desk

Reference librarians provide instruction on how to articulate a research need, create an effective search strategies, and locate appropriate materials. Reference librarians are available during all library business hours, and they can be contacted in person, by phone, or through web chatting, text messaging, and email.

Cypress TILT

The library provides Cypress TILT, a self-paced tutorial, available through the library web site.
Handouts
Handouts are created by Cypress College librarians and cover a variety of topics including style manuals, selected sources, and book lists. They are available in print, and many of them are available in electronic format on the library website.

ASSESSMENT
Library 100 has successfully completed the Student Learning Outcomes (SLO) cycle twice. The last cycle was finished in 2012 and the next cycle will take place in 2015. The research instruction/orientation sessions also successfully completed an SLO cycle in 2007-2008, but formal assessment has not been maintained because the 2011 ACCJC visiting team did not believe SLO assessment was an accreditation requirement for these sessions.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
Activities in Progress
1. Create a “spiral” model for research instruction/orientation sessions. The curriculum content in this model is designed to address the progressive needs of students in a class as their knowledge increases. Each successive session builds on previous learning, and the model is a spiral since research needs are addressed at increasingly higher levels. Sessions need to be appropriate to the timing of progress in each class or discipline.
2. Create opportunities/projects to collaborate with other faculty and students outside the classroom environment. One such project is GENDERSMASH!, a student zine created through collaboration between the Library and the English Department.

Activities to Implement
1. Create brief point-of-need instructional videos that can be accessed on the library website and/or integrated into online courses.
2. Experiment with providing online course-related, single-session instructional sessions using CCC Confer.
3. Cypress TILT needs to be updated.

Activities to Explore
1. Digital Scholarship ...
2. OERs ...