Librarian-Faculty Collaboration: Effective Strategies for Embedding Online & Face-to-Face Library Services

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September 22, 2017

+ Background

Embedded librarians are getting closer to their users through virtual integration into online courses as co-instructors or the equivalent with the cooperation or collaboration with the primary course instructor (Kesselman & Watstein, 2009).

- Using Discussion Boards for communication and interaction
- Embedded online library guides
- Online modules
- Online tutorials
- Synchronous sessions

Two Ways of Embedding

- ***Macro-level***:
  - preexisting library resources are integrated as modules
  - librarian and the instructor <u>cooperate</u>.

- ***Micro-level:***
  - librarian <u>collaborates</u> with the instructor
  - create customized library resources

Cooperation vs Collaboration

- ***Cooperation*** when
  - Relationships are structured
  - Course librarian takes full control over embedded resources.

- ***Collaboration***
  - Librarian is a co-instructor
  - Direct and purposeful interaction with students.

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Instructional Design Framework
Application of ID Elements to Design Instruction in DE

(Framework by Zheng & Smaldino, 2009)

1. *Audience*

2. *Content*

3. *Instructional Strategies*

4. *Technology*

5. *Evaluation*

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Instructional Design Framework
1. Audience

- What are the audiences characteristics?
- How can you increase interactivity to reduce sense of isolation (Moore & Kearsley, 1996)
- Feedback considerations

Instructional Design Framework
2. Content

- How to organize and where to locate the online library materials?

- Learner support library video tutorials, i.e.:
  - how to conduct effective database searches
  - how to determine if a source is authoritative
  - Etc.

- Infoguides (LibGuides):
  - "Begin Your Research" box on the home page
  - "Find Articles
  - "Find Books" Virtual reference widget

Instructional Design Framework
3. Instructional Strategies

- Diversify interactive activities to engage learners

- Do not use long video tutorials or presentations

- Combine content presentation with online discussions

- Use locally relevant examples

- Be concise and use direct questions

- Use one-on-one discussions

Instructional Design Framework
4. Technologies

- Interactivity in Blackboard (Discussion Board):
  - Forum "Ask Your Librarian"

- Frequent group and individualized feedback (Discussion Board with Subscribe button, Kaltura, email, skype, GoToMeeting, etc)
  - Audio
  - Video
  - Combined

- Clarity of grading (Rubrics, syllabus and Blackboard Grade Center):
  - APA citation
  - Use of reliable sources

Instructional Design Framework
5. Evaluation

- Did learners achieve the course learning outcomes?

- Were embedded library resources and activities effective?

- Did learners meet course requirements?