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In Person, Online and In Between: Finding Balance as Instruction Increases

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IN PERSON, ONLINE AND IN-BETWEEN: FINDING BALANCE AS INSTRUCTION INCREASES



THE BACKGROUND

General Ed Courses and the UT Libraries

- First-Year Studies 101 Welcome to the libraries!
- English 101: English Composition I Evaluating sources
- English 102: English Composition II Using specific sources
- Communication Studies 210: Public Speaking Advanced searches and scholarly sources
- Communication Studies 240: Business & Professional Communication –
 Advanced searches and scholarly sources

THE LEARNING OUTCOMES (A COMPARISON)

CMST 210

After completing this course, students should:

- 1. Possess an understanding of the communication process;
- 2. Possess an understanding of how to prepare, deliver, and evaluate speeches;
- 3. Possess an understanding of how to adapt speeches to different audiences;
- 4. Possess an understanding of how to develop and deliver speeches that include intercultural/international topics;
- 5. Demonstrate an understanding of the ethical responsibilities associated with public speaking;
- 6. Demonstrate the skillful use of communication in public speaking contexts;
- 7. Demonstrate the capacity to manage speech anxiety.

CMST 240

After completing this course, you should:

- 1. Possess an understanding of the communication process;
- 2. Possess an understanding of how to prepare, deliver, and evaluate messages in organizational contexts;
- 3. Demonstrate an understanding of the ethical responsibilities associated with business communication; and
- 4. Demonstrate the skillful use of communication in interpersonal, group, and presentation contexts

Haas, J.W. (2015). Public speaking in a global context. Plymouth, MI: Hayden-McNeil.

Haas, J.W (2015). Business and professional communication in the information age. Plymouth, MI: Hayden-McNeil.

THE BIGGER PICTURE

Instruction Statistics

- 2012-2013
 - 479 sessions (168 Gen Ed)
 - 13,708 students
- 2013-2014
 - 629 sessions (185 Gen Ed)
 - 16,260 students
- 2014-2015
 - 640 sessions (138 Gen Ed*)
 - 20,165 students



Photo: Pixabay

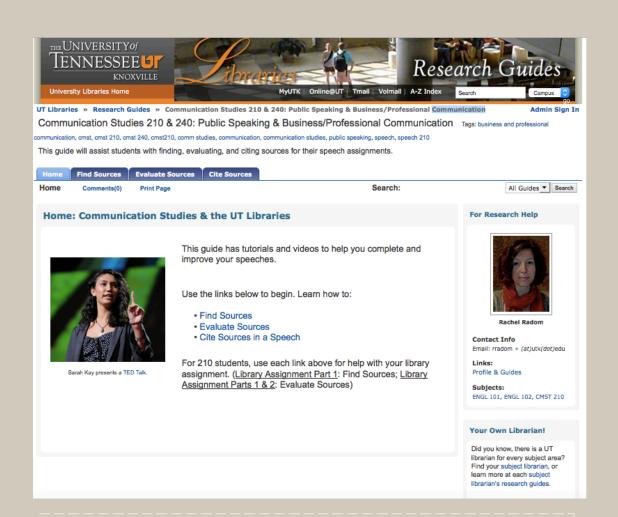
THE CHANGES

Spring 2013

- Moved from "one-shot" to auditoriumstyle sessions
- Assessment through *Poll Everywhere* and three-part worksheet assignment

Fall 2014

- Moved from auditorium to online assignment
- Assessment through three *Guide* on the *Side* tutorials and final quiz in *Qualtrics*



The Good

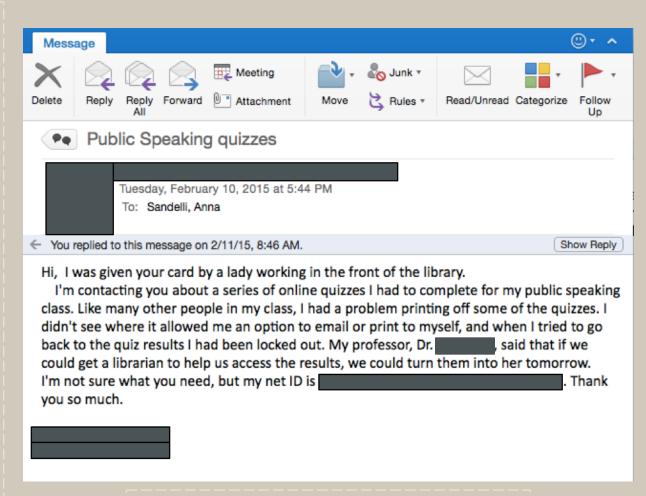
- Reached approximately 2,800 students –
 nearly 1,350 more than previous year
- Increased support for CMST 240 courses
- Offered a "ready reference" that saved time and supported ease of assessment
- Heard positive instructor feedback, including perceptions of students' ability to identify scholarly sources and cite sources

The Not-So-Good

- Confusion over instructions
- Manual grading and e-mail overload
- Loss of personalization and ability for "instruction on the fly"
- Uncertainty over whether students really learned from the experience

In 2014-2015, fewer than 75% of respondents correctly:

- Identified missing elements in a citation
- Recognized authors' credentials
- Selected a scholarly source from among options
- Identified where on the Libraries' website to find books or articles on a specific topic



Screen shot of e-mail request, Spring 2015

THE UPDATES - YEAR 2

Fall 2015

- Clarification of instructions
- Interaction with instructors
- Explanations to students

Spring 2016

- LibGuide personalization
- Virtual office hours
- Consults
- Walk-in workshops
- Snapshot e-mails and reports

HERE TO HELP

SPRING 2016 OFFERINGS FOR CMST 210 & 240

There are several ways you can get research assistance from the UT Libraries as you work on your assignments:

Virtual Office Hours

Use the chat box on the left side of this page to speak with your librarian in real time during the hours below, which are effective from March 22 - May 4, 2016.

You can also chat any time you see a blue "Start Chat" button available in the chat box.

Tuesdays 11 a.m. -noon Wednesdays 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Consultations

Prefer coming to Hodges Library for help? Click the "Request a Consultation" link below this image to share your availability and which topics you would like to discuss (ex - brainstorming search terms, finding scholarly articles).

Please allow one business day for confirmation of your date, time, and room location.

Additional Options

You are welcome to e-mail your librarian, Anna Sandelli, at asandell@utk.edu with any questions. Please allow one business day for a response.

The UT Libraries also offer research assistance in person and online to to all students, which are a good option if you have an immediate need. Learn more at lib.utk.edu/askusnow.

The Not-So-Good

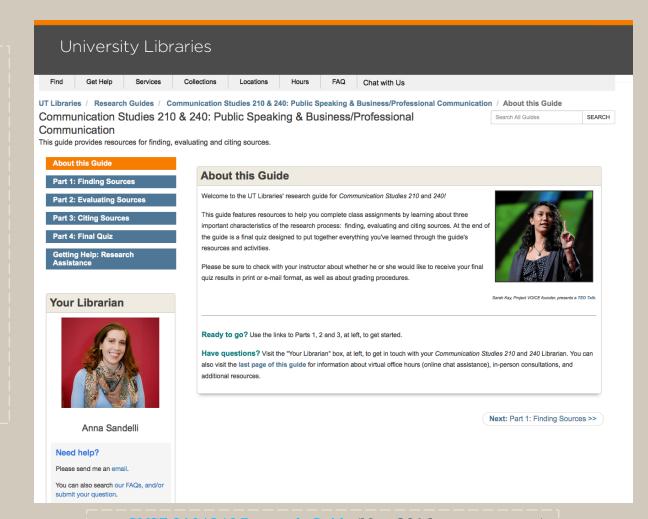
- Little change in students' scores
- Low use of office hours and consults
- Unexpectedly high participation in evening walk-in workshop

The Good

- Greater variety in students' questions
- Deeper appreciation for students' experiences with topic development, finding sources, and recognizing bias
- Start of new conversations with instructors (ex - visual literacy)

CMST 210 and CMST 240

- 97% vs. 92% participation
- Differences in:
 - identifying a scholarly source
 - identifying where to find articles
 - Assignment timing

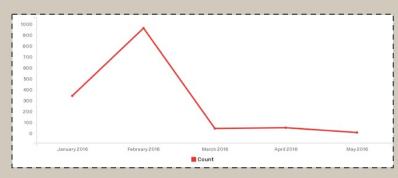


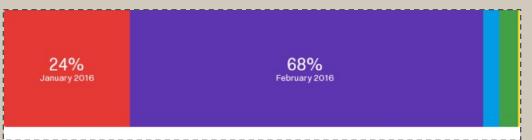
CMST 210/240 Research Guide (May 2016 screen capture)

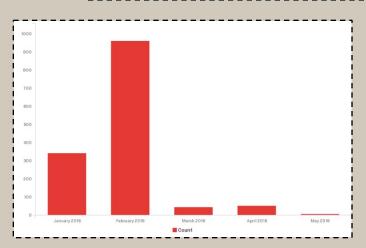
THE REFLECTION

Considerations

- Added value vs. duplicative efforts
- "Bite-sized" experiences vs. "all-you-can eat" offerings
- Assignment approach vs. guiding philosophies
- Information in context for each course







Three different visualizations of CMST's final quiz completion dates, illustrating how the same information can be conveyed in varied ways.

THE REFLECTION

NCA's Learning Outcomes in Communication and the ACRL Framework

- Research as Inquiry
- Information Creation as a Process
- Authority is Constructed and Contextual

National Communication Association. 2015. What should a graduate with a communications degree know, understand, and be able to do? Retrieved from https://www.natcom.org/LOC/

LOC #3: Engage in Communication inquiry

- Interpret Communication scholarship
- Evaluate Communication scholarship
- Apply Communication scholarship
- · Formulate questions appropriate for Communication scholarship
- . Engage in Communication scholarship using the research traditions of the discipline
- · Differentiate between various approaches to the study of Communication
- Contribute to scholarly conversations appropriate to the purpose of inquiry

LOC #4: Create messages appropriate to the audience, purpose, and context

- · Locate and use information relevant to the goals, audiences, purposes and contexts
- · Select creative and appropriate modalities and technologies to accomplish communicative goals
- · Adapt messages to the diverse needs of individuals, groups and contexts
- · Present messages in multiple communication modalities and contexts
- · Adjust messages while in the process of communicating
- · Critically reflect on one's own messages after the communication event

LOC #5: Critically analyze messages

- · Identify meanings embedded in messages
- Articulate characteristics of mediated and non-mediated messages
- · Recognize the influence of messages
- · Engage in active listening
- · Enact mindful responding to messages

THE NEXT STEPS

Four areas of opportunity

- Increasing connecting with instructors
- Cultivating conversations with students
- Exploring different needs of CMST 210 and 240 courses
- Experiencing what students experience in the physical and online classroom



Photo: Pixabay

DISCUSSION & QUESTIONS

Thank you!

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