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We're Both Your Librarian: A Course Collaboration Between an Academic Library and a Health Sciences Library

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We're *Both* Your Librarian:

A Course Collaboration Between an Academic Library and a Health Sciences Library

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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA

USA LIBRARIES
PRESERVATION
KNOWLEDGE
DISCOVERY

Collaboration Between Libraries

- In the 3rd year of merging the University Libraries: Biomedical Library, Marx (Academic) Library, McCall Rare Book and Manuscript Library, and Mitchell College of Business Library
- All libraries understaffed: The Biomedical Library is down from 8 to 4 professional librarians.
- How to best leverage current resources at this point in time?

Background

ACADEMIC DIVISION	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	Fall 2018	Fall 2019
College of Nursing					
Freshman	432	433	391	365	319
Sophomore	283	317	320	296	282
Junior	234	268	271	306	304
Senior	429	377	368	355	406
Unclassified	1	0	0	0	0
Graduate	2,830	2,892	2,877	2,868	3,027
TOTAL	**4,209**	**4,287**	**4,227**	**4,190**	**4,338**

Background

I am the course coordinator for NU 590-802 (Special Topics: Introduction to Scholarly Writing). This is a newly developed graduate course we are piloting this semester in the College of Nursing. The purpose of the course to get graduate level nursing students ready for required writing intensive courses and eventual manuscript publication by offering them an elective, introductory level course on the basics of APA, writing composition, and bibliographic search methodologies. Is it possible for me to embed a librarian into this course? Proposed Unit 4 (Oct 28-Nov 18) covers bibliographic search strategies, creating ILLiad accounts, and conducting a basic review of literature. I would LOVE to have a librarian who could help me develop keynotes and materials related to this topic. I have a few assignments already created, but could use help creating another related specifically to searching for peer-reviewed nursing journals. Please let me know if you have someone available who would be willing to help. I would greatly appreciate it. (Received August 8, 2019)

Complementary Skill Sets & Support

Stephanie

- Former composition instructor.
- Campus academic integrity specialist.
- Strong online presence (instruction, social media, programming).
- Skill with video-making software.

Clista

- Experience in embedded librarianship.
- Clinical librarian/expert in evidence-based practice instruction.
- Familiarity with nursing curriculum.
- Established relationships with nursing faculty.

Collaboration with Teaching Faculty:

Identifying Student Needs

NU 590: Introduction to Scholarly Writing (pilot course: 18 students, fully online)

- Library needs
  - Basic info seeking skills (generating search terms, evaluating sources).
  - Library website navigation, especially nursing databases and Interlibrary Loan.
- Class needs
  - Fully online instruction with a focus on demonstrations.
  - Short, digestible learning objects.
  - Approachable and responsive librarian.

Collaboration with Teaching Faculty:

Building Online Modules

USA Libraries

The USA Libraries are committed to helping you access and use the resources you need to be successful as a student at USA. The information below will help you know who to contact when you need help for this course and introduce you to different resources and services that are available.

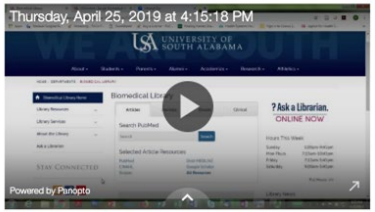
Ask a Librarian.

- Your librarian is Stephanie Evers Ard! You can send her an email at severs@southalabama.edu or call at 251-414-8178.
- You can also contact the Biomedical Library's Ask a Librarian online chat or by phone at (251) 460-7044. The Marx Library Learning Commons Desk is available through their online chat or by phone at (251) 460-6048.

Baugh Biomedical Library.

- The Biomedical Library is your primary jumping off point for health science databases and other information resources that will be useful for you in your nursing courses. These include health science databases, LibGuides arranged by discipline/topic, online tutorials that walk you through how to use different online resources, and Interlibrary Loan/Document Delivery for ordering articles or books (at no charge to you) that the USA Libraries do not own. **NOTE: Since you are in the nursing program, you will need to use the Biomedical Library's Interlibrary Loan/Document Delivery service to order articles or books.**

Tour the Biomedical Library!



What is scholarly research?

What is a scholarly article, and how is it different from something you might find on Google? Learn the difference between popular and scholarly sources in this video.

Unit 4: Bibliographic Search Techniques

ADD CONTENT + | REORDER | TIPS | ⚙

- **USA Libraries**
- **Bibliographic Search Techniques**
- **Unit Wrap-Up**

BACK

Collaboration with Teaching Faculty:

Successes

- Positive interactions and effective communication between USA Libraries and College of Nursing.
  - Stephanie, Clista, and faculty member met in-person before and after the course.
  - Stephanie maintained regular contact through email.
- Developed complete, reusable lessons and learning objects.
- Students improved understanding of the relationship between nursing practice and library research.

Collaboration with Teaching Faculty:

Challenges

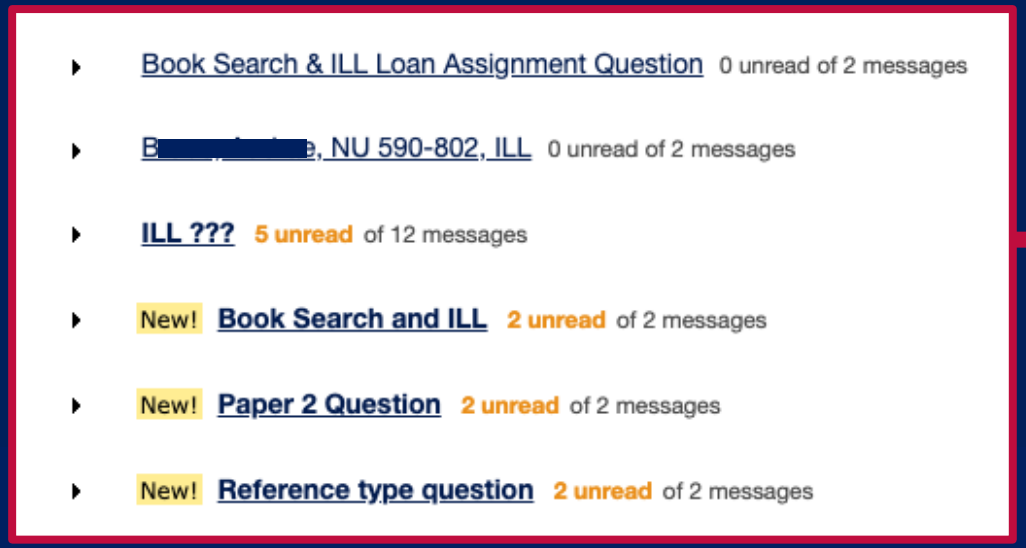
- Workload
  - Increased responsibilities in Stephanie's usual liaison area (social sciences).
  - Is this arrangement mutually beneficial?
- Communication between two librarians.
  - Clista wanted to provide autonomy; Stephanie struggled with some nursing content.
  - Solution: improved informal communication.
- Faculty misunderstanding of library resources: the Interlibrary Loan assignment.

Faculty changes the assignment...

Sources: For this bibliography, you should have 5 to 7 sources. They should all be on the same topic: **advanced practice nursing roles**. Search for information on various roles, including (but not limited to) nurse anesthetist, nurse midwife, clinical nurse specialist, and nurse practitioner. Consider searching for information on nursing informaticists, nurse executives, and nurse educators as well. Your bibliography must include:

- at least three peer-reviewed articles
- at least one book
- at least one source obtained from interlibrary loan (ILLiad)

Annotations: After you provide the citation, write a paragraph to discuss the source. This should include:



...this is the result.

Course Feedback:

Positive & Negative

7 - Please list up to three things that you liked about this course.	
Response Rate	9/15 (60%)

- Assignments and expectations were very well defined.
- 1. a clear understanding of APA format 2. Assignments clear and concise 3. time given to complete assignments
- The professor responded promptly. We were given resources that will help us through the rest of our schooling.
- The videos from the librarian were very helpful and have assisted me in my other classes.
- I liked that the Dr. Thomas gave us enough time to do the assignments. I liked the way she commented back on the assignments with the corrections, and I like the way she broke down the process of writing a paper.
- 1. It was a great refresher course on APA style. 2. I liked getting exposure to inter library loan system and Turnitin software
- 1. corrections with explanations were thorough. 2. Instructor returned messages promptly 3. The assignments were not overwhelming
- This course gave me confidence in future writing classes. I liked interacting with the library and learning to use that tool more effectively.
- The book required was actually used. the teacher was responsive and provided excellent feedback. the units were clear and easy to understand

8 - Please list up to three things you would change about this course.	
Response Rate	7/15 (46.67%)

- 1. guidance for scholarly search 2. more samples in APA format
- Opening the units ahead of time so students can work ahead when time allows.
- One of the things that i did not think was very clear on how to use a different library for one of the assignments.
- 1. I would have liked to cover more on the different types of scholarly articles and the different types of research papers. 2. Having more topics on how to expand searches within PubMed
- 1. Post assignments early for students who have schedules that do not always allow for equal spaced work. 2. Allow past students access to this class while enrolled for a refresher. 3. no other changes.
- This course was very worth the time and money spent; however, I would like to have learned more about the writing lab and how to use that.
- the ILL activity was a little difficult to follow. But I enjoyed making the account and understanding how to use it

Future Considerations:

- Increased enrollment after pilot course ends.
- Long-term sustainability: workload and staffing concerns.
- Collaboration with College of Nursing course director on research project.

Questions?