One Workshop, Many Locations: Meeting the Needs of Both On-Campus and Distance Students

Lisa Becksford
Online & Graduate Engagement Librarian
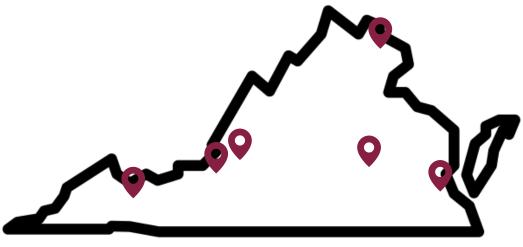Virginia Tech

V⫟ | **UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES**
VIRGINIA TECH.

Goals for session

- Describe the workshop series and how it fits into other outreach efforts
- Share details on logistics to keep in mind
- Explore lessons learned and unexpected benefits of workshop series

Graduate Education at VT

- Fall 2019: 6414 graduate students (out of 36,383 total)
- Located around state and online:

- Primarily reached through liaisons

Virginia by Andrejs Kirma from the Noun Project

Needs Assessment - Spring 2018

- 127 responses from main campus and extended campuses
- Identified needs for training in research skills, scholarly publishing, data management, submitting electronic theses/dissertations, and citation management
- Students preferred a combination of in-person and online workshop offerings
- Need for opportunities to learn about those things that they are less likely to get in a one-shot session in a class

Research Tools for Graduate Students Workshop Series

Research Tools for Graduate Students Workshop Series: Upcoming Workshops

This guide provides information and registration links for the University Libraries' workshop series for graduate students.

Upcoming Workshops | Past Workshops and Resources | Frequent Questions

The workshops below will help you develop the research skills you need to succeed in graduate school. All workshops will be streamed and recorded via Zoom.

If you have an accessibility need, please contact Lisa Becksford at lisab5@vt.edu at least 10 business days before the workshop.

Literature Reviews and Database Searching for Social and Behavioral Sciences

Wednesday, February 5, 2:30-3:45 pm, Newman 207A

You've been assigned to write a literature review...but how do you get started? What kinds of literature reviews are there? Where should you search? How do you know what search terms to use? Learn the answers to these questions and more in this interactive workshop. By the end of this session, you'll be able to

Literature Reviews and Database Searching for Life Sciences

Tuesday, February 4, 1:30-3:00 pm, Newman 207A

You've been assigned to write a literature review...but how do you get started? What kinds of literature reviews are there? Where should you search? How do you know what search terms to use? Learn the answers to these questions and more in this interactive workshop. By the end of this session, you'll be able to

- Identify the type of literature review to be conducted
- Find relevant databases to search in the life sciences

Online and Graduate Engagement Librarian

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Workshop topics – Fall 2019

- Literature Reviews and Database Searching for Social and Behavioral Sciences
- Introduction to Research Data Management
- Getting Started with Zotero, Mendeley, and EndNote (3 separate workshops)
- Literature Reviews and Database Searching for Animal and Life Sciences
- Literature Reviews and Database Searching for Engineering
- Developing Your Online Scholarly Presence
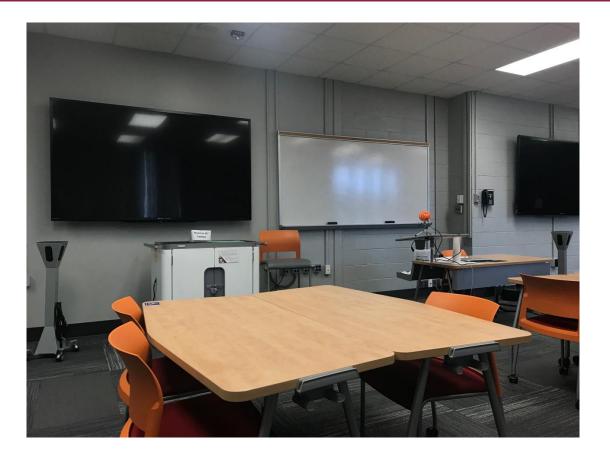- Promoting Your Scholarly Work Online

Workshop topics - Spring 2020

- Literature Reviews and Database Searching for Social and Behavioral Sciences
- Introduction to Research Data Management
- **Using Citation Managers to Improve Your Research Workflow**
- Literature Reviews and Database Searching for Life Sciences
- **Introduction to Scholarly Publishing**
- Developing Your Online Scholarly Presence
- Promoting Your Scholarly Work Online
- **Deciphering Research Impact Metrics**
- **Copyright, Fair Use, and Your Thesis or Dissertation**

(bold indicates new workshops for this semester)

In-person and online

- Participants can register for either in-person or online version
  - ☐ Use LibCal for in person, Zoom for online
- In-person session is held in a library classroom with a portable telepresence machine
- Instructor joins the Zoom meeting and shares screen
  - ☐ Yeti Snowball mic is connected to presenter's computer
- Room camera is focused on front of room
  - ☐ Can do without room camera if needed
- I (or someone else if I'm the instructor) monitors the chat with online participants
  - ☐ Relays questions, helps troubleshoot audio, etc.
  - ☐ Are currently training students to fulfill this role
- Session is recorded via Zoom

Workshops by the Numbers

Fall 2019

- 9 workshops
- 121 registered for in-person workshops
- 38 attended in-person workshops
- 135 registered for online sessions
- 45 attended online live
- 64 have watched session videos

Spring 2020

- 9 workshops
- 79 registered for in-person workshops
- 31 attended in-person workshops
- 255 registered for online sessions
- 53 attended online live
- 17 have watched session videos (as of 3/4/20)

Logistics and time demands

- Someone to monitor chat
  - ☐ Usually me if I'm not teaching, but we have been training student workers
- Uploading recording
  - ☐ Upload into our Kaltura instance
- Recruiting presenters
  - ☐ Contact the semester before
  - ☐ My promise is that all they have to do is show up and teach
- Maintain LibGuide
  - ☐ Add recordings and materials

Research Tools for Graduate Students Workshop Series: Past Workshops and Resources

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Introduction to Research Data Management

Thursday, January 30, 2-3 pm, Newman 207A

You're about to collect or already have data for your research project...now what? How do you manage it? What do you name the files? How do you share it? Learn the answers to all of these questions and more in this workshop, which will present an introduction to research data management, including the following topics:

- Data management planning
- File naming conventions/organization
- Backing-up research data
- Documentation (metadata)
- Data Sharing
- Data Security
- How the library can help

To view the recording from the session, click here. Slides and other materials from the session are available here.

Literature Reviews and Database Searching for Social and Behavioral Sciences

Wednesday, February 5, 2:30-3:45 pm, Newman 207A

Literature Reviews and Database Searching for Life Sciences

Tuesday, February 4, 2:00-3:30 pm, Newman 207A

You've been assigned to write a literature review...but how do you get started? What kinds of literature reviews are there? Where should you search? How do you know what search terms to use? Learn the answers to these questions and more in this interactive workshop. By the end of this session, you'll be able to

- Identify the type of literature review to be conducted
- Find relevant databases to search in the life sciences
- Create effective search strategies

To view the recording from the session, click here. Slides and other materials from the session are available here.

Using Citation Managers to Improve Your Research Workflow

Wednesday, February 12, 2:30-3:45 pm, Newman 207A

Citation managers like EndNote, Mendeley, and Zotero are powerful tools that can help you save, organize, and cite your references. Their use can also help improve your workflow and make the research process easier and less stressful. This session will focus on ways to incorporate citation managers into your workflow. By the end of this session, you'll be able to

- Integrate citation managers into your existing workflow

Lessons learned

- Scheduling always a challenge
  - No perfect time for everyone
- Students' interest versus attendance
  - Consistent with what the graduate school sees for their events
- Zoom session allows potential for interaction beyond questions, but students may not expect that
- Workshop series requires a substantial time commitment from me
- Distance students are not the only ones who benefit from online format

Benefits

- Able to reach both on-campus and distance students at one time
  - Distance students can easily be neglected when the majority of your students are at one physical location
- Having multiple instructors distributes the teaching load
  - Conversely, having one person coordinate helps streamline the administrative process and makes it easier on the instructors
  - Gives instructors a chance to engage with grad students
- Recording the sessions means that students who don't learn about series until it's in progress don't fully miss out
  - Instructors have shared the recordings of their sessions with students who needed a deep dive into a topic
- Series format helps build interest and momentum

Part of a larger outreach effort

- Orientation workshops (Fall 2016-2018) and graduate student open house (Fall 2019 - present)
  - ☐ Introduce students to the library and also advertise the workshop series
- Online introduction for distance students
- Speaking at graduate school events
- Library promotion during Graduate Education Week
- 1-credit online class for graduate students
- Outreach is never done…

Thanks!

Any questions?

Follow up at

lisab5@vt.edu

Credits

Special thanks to all the people who made and released these awesome resources for free:

- Presentation template by SlidesCarnival