

Teaching Information Literacy Through Senior Projects

Presented at the 7th Annual Georgia Conference on Information Literacy, Savannah, GA

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Lisha Li Library and Information Center Georgia Institute of Technology Oct. 1, 2010

Outlines

- Background
- Initial collaboration
- Information literacy workshop
 - Design ACRL IL Standards
 - Implementation
 - Feedback and Improvements
 - Assessment/Evaluation
- Workshop outcomes
- Discussions and conclusions





CEE Background

- CEE: School of Civil and Environmental Engineering (1896)
- Civil and environmental engineering deals with the design, construction and maintenance of the physical and naturally built environment, including structures and materials, transportation of people and goods, air and water quality, natural materials in engineered systems, sustainable resource management, and environmental biotechnology, etc.

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CEE Background

Total Full Time Faculty:

Total Students (Fall 2009): 1,190

81

Undergraduate: 857Graduate: 333

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Course Background

- Course CEE 3000: Civil engineering systems
- Introduced in 1999.
- Description: "...introduces students to a sustainable engineering approach for *planning*, *design*, *implementation*, *operation and renewal* of civil engineering systems."
- Required senior course (3 credit hours)
- 2 classes offered each semester with 60 65 students in each class (- mostly CEE, some Arch, IE, ME, BMED)

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Course Background (cont'd)

- Multidisciplinary perspective (technical, economic, environmental and socio-political)
- Group project based (~3-5 students in each group)
- Bibliography of information and data sources

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20%

- Project report and team presentation
- Course evaluation for Project Report:



ASCE* Vision for Civil Engineering in 2025



Course Objectives

- 4 Modules:
 - Sustainable engineering and the system approach
 - Mathematical tools and systems performance analysis

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- Economic decision-making tools and projects evaluation
- Project presentations
- 2 Objectives
 - Engineering communication
 - <u>Library information skills</u>



Projects Examples

- Sears Tower vs. Petronas Towers
- Dallas Fort Worth Airport vs. Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson Airport

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- Itapu Dam vs. Hoover Dam
- Atlanta area vs. Chicago area transportation systems
- Port of Rotterdam vs. Port of Singapore
- Georgia Dome vs. Roman Coliseum
- Japan's Shinkansen vs. France's TGV



Comparative Systems Analysis

Characterizing the systems

• Purpose, background, functional characteristics, linkages (environmental, economic, social, political)

Comparing the systems

• Performance, environmental impacts, benefit/cost, social/political analysis

Evaluating the systems

• Identification of better system with justification, recommendations for improvement, limitation of analysis

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Workshop Development Time Line



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Initial Collaboration with Faculty

- It all started with...
 - Journey to Planet Earth (DVDs)



Rivers of DestinyThe Urban ExplosionLand of Plenty, Land of WantOn the BrinkSeas of GrassHot ZonesFuture ConditionalThe State of the PlanetState of the Planet's WildlifeState of the Ocean's AnimalsState of the Planet's Oceans







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ACRL IL Standards for Sci-Tech

- Information Literate students:
 - <u>determines</u> the nature and extent of the information needed;
 - <u>acquires</u> needed information effectively and efficiently;
 - critically <u>evaluates</u> the procured information and its sources, and as a result, decides whether or not to modify the initial query and/or seek additional sources and whether to develop a new research process;
 - <u>Understands</u> the <u>economic, ethical, legal, and social</u> issues surrounding the use of information and its technologies and either as an individual or as a member of a group, uses information effectively, ethically, and legally to accomplish a specific purpose;
 - understands that information literacy is an ongoing process and an important component of <u>lifelong learning</u> and recognizes the need to <u>keep current</u> regarding new developments in his or her field.

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IL Workshop Focus

Focus	Information Knowledge and Skill Sets
Information Structure	Understand how information is created, disseminated and organized -Know the scholarly publication process -Know the concepts of database, indexes, thesaurus and classification systems
Information Access	Effectively apply information retrieval skills and know where and how to obtain useful information -Be familiar with resources available and their features -Form effective search strategies and apply useful search tips -Access full text and obtain materials through interlibrary loan services
Information Integration	Critically evaluate information and its sources and incorporate information effectively into their projects -Apply information evaluation criteria -Use styles and citation management tools -Be aware of copyright and fair use issues

IL Workshop Setting

- Held at Homer Rice Center a library classroom with 32 student computers, and 1 instructor computer with data projector
- Offered as an one time session outside the course meeting time
- Provided two identical sessions on different day/time for student to choose from through registration

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Opened follow-up consultations sessions/hours







IL Workshop Layout & Follow up Session

- Information resources:
 - 30 min.
- Information access and integration demo:
 - 30 min.
- Hands-on exercises:
 - 30 min.





Information Structure/Resources

- Overview of scholarly publishing process, databases, indexes, thesaurus
- Major databases for civil and environmental engineering
- Databases in broader scope: social, economic, and public policy aspects





Resources by Type of Project

CEE 3000 Project Research Resources

		Government						
Project Type	Major Resources	Additional Resources	Sponsored Research	News				
Airports	Avery Index	Academic Search Complete	NTIS	LexisNexis				
	ASCE Database	Web of Science	TransStats	ProQuest				
	TRIS	ABI/INFORM Complete						
	Compendex	ScienceDirect						
		Environment Complete						
		GreenFILE						
Buildings, Cities	Avery Index	Academic Search Complete	NTIS	LexisNexis				
	Art & Architecture Complete	Web of Science		ProQuest				
	Compendex	ABI/INFORM Complete						
	ASCE Database	ScienceDirect						
	Urban Studies Abstracts	Environment Complete						
		GreenFILE						
Flood Control	ASCE Database	Academic Search Complete	DTIC	LexisNexis				
	Compendex	ScienceDirect	NTIS	ProQuest				
	GeoRef	ABI/INFORM Complete						
	Web of Science	Environment Complete						
		GreenFILE						
Hydraulic Structures	ASCE Database	Academic Search Complete	NTIS	LexisNexis				
	Compendex	ScienceDirect	DTIS	ProQuest				
	Avery Index	ABI/INFORM Complete						
	GeoRef	GreenFILE						
	Web of Science	Environment Complete						

Information Structure/Resources (cont'd)

- CrossSearch features
- Customization features
- Advanced databases search features

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- Advanced search
- Save search
- Export records



Information Access

 Brain storm keywords and forming search strategies - using examples from previous classes

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- Refine search results using facet feature
- Review, select, and export results
- Full text article access
 - Through SFX;
 - print;
 - ILLiad



Information Integration

- Information evaluation criteria
- Annotated bibliographies
- Citation styles (ASCE, APA, MLA, Chicago)
- Citation management tools (EndNote)

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Copyright and fair use issues



Hands-on Exercises

- Locate books
 - GIL/GIL Universal catalogs
 - WorldCat
- Search and access journal articles
 - Database searches for project topics
 - Electronic journals and SFX
- Locate Technical Reports
 - Print reports
 - Reports on microform
 - Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) documents



Follow-up

- E-mail questions and answers
- Consultation sessions by request (held at consultation area for 1-3 students, or a library class room for more than 3 students)

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- Project specific issues
- Resource specific questions
- Search strategies and search terms
- Obtaining specific items
- Bibliographies



Evaluation and Assessment

- Short surveys after classes
- Informal feedback from students and faculty
- Formal assessment through CETL*
- Email responses
- Observation through follow-up consultation

* CETL: Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning, GA Tech









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After Class Survey

- This workshop provides me with enough resources to start my search of information for my project.
 - Strongly agree 64%
 - Agree 36%
- This workshop teaches me necessary information skills to conduct my research using library resources.
 - Strongly agree 91%
 - Agree 9%

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Suggestions and Improvement Made

- For future improvement of the similar workshop, I would recommend:
 - Add more international resources (-added)
 - Use a microphone
 - Offer more sessions * (- two sessions offered for each class)

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(* 39 students showed up in class one time)



Registration (Survey Monkey)

Edit Question Move Copy Delete
4. Please enter your group number:
Add Question Here Split Page Here
Edit Question Move Copy Delete Add Question Logic
5. Which session are you able to attend?
Wed., Sept. 23 at 4 p.m. only
Either Tue., Sept. 22 at 4 p.m. or Wed., Sept. 23 at 4 p.m.
Weither date/time works with my schedule. I will request a make-up session for another time.
Add Question Here Split Page Here
Edit Question Move Copy Delete
6. Please list one thing you would like to get out from this workshop:
Add Question Here
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Formal Assessment Through CETL*

- 2008 Class of 1969 Teaching Fellowship
- Class Observation by the Fellowship Program Director and her assistant
- After workshop dialogue/discussion with students

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Feedback collected

* CETL: Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning







Feedbacks from CEE 3000 Students

- What helps you learn in this library workshop?
 - The students unanimously agreed that the following techniques/tools help them learn:
 - 1) the research guide web site;
 - 2) the hands-on time for learning;
 - Many students agreed that the following help them learn:
 - 3) PowerPoint slides;
 - 4) the handouts
- What changes in this library workshop would improve your learning?
 - Speak louder* (All students agreed with this except the ones in the front row.)
 - Provide more information about citations (styles)
 - Explain about preparing bibliography







Feedbacks from CEE 3000 Students (cont'd)

- *• What is the most important feedback you want your instructor to hear?*
 - "Thank you! We appreciate you taking us through this information."
 - "This was a good workshop because now we know what resources we have."
 - "Integrating practice time and coaching into the PowerPoint presentation would be very helpful."





Informal Responses

- "It was very helpful." students
- "It was worth it" students
- "Your slides were very informative and helpful." – students
- "Glad to see more quality references used by students." - faculty
- "Overall quality improvement (of project reports)." – teaching faculty

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Resources Use Survey 2008 (Graduate – CEE/ME)



Q: Where do you go to meet your academic information needs? (Please rank your 1st, 2nd, 3rd... choices) – (Graduate)

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Resources Use Survey 2008 (Undergraduate CEE/ME)



Q: Where do you go to meet your academic information needs? (Please rank your 1st, 2nd, 3rd... choices) – (Undergraduate)

nter

Student Project Report Reference Review

Works Cited (Spring 05)



Student Project Report Reference Review



Student Project Report Reference Review

- Percentage of scholarly journal articles cited among all references*:
 - Spring 2005: 4.7%
 - Spring 2006: 10.4%
 - Spring 2007: 20%
 - Fall 2007: 18%
 - Fall 2010:

N/A

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(* Not including articles from trade journals and magazines)

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Student Project Report **Reference Review (cont'd)**

- Use of scholarly journals, technical reports and government documents
 - Before the workshop offered: 16%
 - After the workshop offered: 31% (through 2007)





Workshop Outcomes

- Students gained knowledge of value-added resources and were able to select appropriate search tools for their projects
- Students learned how to conduct effective searches and evaluate results
- Students learned how to effectively manage, and incorporate info. into their reports
- Students were aware of rights issues and asked related questions

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Workshop Outcomes (cont'd)

- Workshop expansion:
 - offering two sessions for each class
 - including all classes for the same course
- Workshop are offered every semester including summer.
- Workshop standardized in course syllabus
- Librarian has more opportunities working with different professors each semester.

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CEE 3000 Course Syllabus

Benchmarking Sustainability Engineering Education: Final Report: Appendix D: Course Syllabi

EPA Grant X3-83235101-0 5. Civil Engineering Systems, Georgia Tech

Course Outline

Week	Class	Date	Topics	Assignments			
1	1	Aug 21	Course overview; Introduction to sustainability:	Project description out			
1	2	Aug 23	trends, definitions, measurement; Systems				
2	3	Aug 28	representation and analysis; Planning from a systems	HW1 out			
4	4	Aug 30	perspective; Performance-based planning; Context				
		_	sensitive solutions, Asset Management;				
			Environmental and Social Impact Assessment				
2	2 5		Mathematical models, Optimization by Calculus	HW1 due			
3	6	Sept 6		Library Workshop*			
4	7	Sept 11	Engineering Communication I: Written	COMI out			
4	8	Sept 13	QUIZ #1	HW2 out			
5	9	Sept 18	Engineering Communication II: Visual	COM1 due/COM2 out			
⁵ 10 Se		Sept 20	Optimization by Linear and Integer programming;	Project Bibliography due			
6	11	Sept 25	Queuing Analysis; Incorporating uncertainty in	COM2 due			

Library Information Skills

Another important objective of this course is to develop basic library information and research skills (manual and electronic). Again, the project is designed to develop and assess these skills. In particular, the quality, range and balance of information sources used in the project will be evaluated. Ms. Lisha Li, the Civil Engineering Librarian for the Institute, will participate in the course by presenting a workshop on the basics of Library Information and Research Skills and should be considered an important resource as you develop your written reports. She can be reached at <u>lisha.li@library.gatech.edu</u> or 404-385-7185.

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Center for Sustainable Engineering (CSE) Benchmark Assessment



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Executive Board Advisory Board

<u>Workshops</u>

CSE Electronic Library

Benchmark Assessment

Electronic Library Holdings



Benchmark Assessment

The Center has recently completed an EPA-funded project to determine the status of sustainable engineering education at four-year colleges and universities in the U.S. As part of this project, the Center has collected information on courses and curricula, sustainability centers and institutes, conferences related to sustainability, and other activities related to Sustainable Engineering. In addition, the Center has collected information on the content of courses, such as the key concepts, types of educational activities, and written materials.

Based on the project results, the Center is developing a roadmap for achieving excellence in Sustainable Engineering education, and will summarize the data and the roadmap in journal articles and on the Center website.

The final report for the EPA project is available by clicking below:

- Final Report, all text except Course Syllabi
- Course Syllabi Part 1
- Course Syllabi Part 2
- Course Syllabi Part 3
- Course Syllabi Part 4



http://www.csengin.org/



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EIS Documents Digitization Project

Government F	^{anded}	ports	Georgia Tech	nter			
Search Technical Reports Go Advanced Search	Gove Bro	rnment Funded Technical Reports > wsing "Environmental Impact Statements (EIS)" by Ti	tle				
→ <u>Home</u>		Jump to: 0-9 A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O I	<u>PORSIUVWXYZ</u>				
Browse		or enter first few letters:	Go!				
<u>Communities</u>	Issue Date	Title	Author(s)				
 <u>& Collections</u> <u>Issue Date</u> Author 	3-Sep-2009	Fort Drum Connector (I-81 to Fort Drum North Gate), new highway construction, Towns of Le Ray and Pamelia, Jefferson County: Final Environmental Impact Statement	United States. Federal Highway Administration; New York Department of Transportation				
→ <u>Title</u>	Jan-2001	U.S. 93 Hoover Dam Bypass: Final Environmental Impact Statement and Section 4(f) Evaluation	Federal Highway Administration; Central Federal Lands Highway Division				
Sign on to:	1975	Environmental impact statements for transportation facilities	American Society of Civil Engineers, Metropolitan Sections; Institute of Traffic Engineers, Metropolitan Sections				
→ Receive email updates	Jan-2000	WA-16/Union Avenue Vicinity to WA-302 Vicinity of Tacoma Improvements : environmental impact statement.	United States. Federal Highway Administration; Washington State. Department of Transportation				
<u>My Technical Rep</u> authorized users Edit Profile	Jan-2003	Chicago – St. Louis High-Speed Rail Project: Final Environmental Impact Statement	United States. Federal Highway Administration; Illinois. Dept. of Transportation				
 Help GT Library Techn 	Sep-2008	Doyle Drive: south access to the Golden Gate Bridge: final environmental impact statement/report and final section 4(f) evaluation./3 VOLUMES	California Department of Transportation; San Francisco County Transportation Authority; Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation				
Reports Research	2007	Environmental Assessment for Reconstruction of Turtle River Lake Road, Forest Highway 52 (County State-Aid Highway 22) Chippewa National Forest, Beltrami County, Minnesota.	FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION, STERLING, VA. EASTERN FEDERAL LANDS Highway Div; FOREST SERVICE, WASHINGTON, DC.	<u>EL</u>			
cholarly		Environmental Assessment: Natchez Trace Parkway. Lindsey Creek, Threet Creek, County Road 85 and Highway 13 Bridge Replacement Wayne County, Tennessee and Lauderdale County, Alabama.	FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION, STERLING, VA. EASTERN FEDERAL LANDS Highway Div; NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, WASHINGTON, DC.	DC			
Communic	ation	Repave and Rehabilitate a Portion of the Lassen Volcanic National Park Highway (Mileposts 6.7 to 28.4) Environmental Assessment, August 2005.	NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, WASHINGTON, DC	<u>DC</u>			
<u>c Digital</u>		Environmental Assessment for Roadway and Trail Safety Improvements George Washington Memorial Parkway: Virginia and Washington, DC.	EEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION, STERLING, VA. EASTERN FEDERAL LANDS Highway Div; NATIONAL PARK SERVICE,				
ervices							

Distance Learning Session for GT Savannah Students (Wimba)

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Demo through Podcasting (Camtasia)

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Resources Page Via T-Square (Sakai)

T-Square : 3000 Project... *

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Home	Options											
Syllabus												
Announcements	CEE3000											
Schedule												
Resources	Civil Engineering Systems											
Forums	Civil Engineering Systems											
Drop Box	Suring 2000											
Email Archive	Spring 2009											
Sakai Project News												
Web Content	Library Resources Page											
Site Info												
Blogger												
Modules	This page is an introduction to information resources, both at the Georgia Tech Library and on the Internet, which will help you with your researc											
Podcasts	projects.											
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Search												
Section Info												
W1K1	Finding Background Information Locating Books Locating Articles/Papers Accessing Electronic Journals											
неф	Finding Technical Reports Finding Government Documents Finding EIS Information Finding Statistics											
	Locating Company Information Finding Newspapers International Resources Locating Maps/GIS											

Evaluating Internet Sites







Obtaining Materials



Citation Tools

Further Info. & Contact

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Course Guide (LibGuide)

CEE 30	00: Civil Eng	ineering Systems		
ast update: .	Jun 13th, 2010 URL	: http://libguides.gatech.edu/cee3000 EPint/Mobile	e Guide 🛛 RSS Updates 🚺 SHARE 📲 🐒	2 47)
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Course Guide Use Statistics

Page	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Application of Information	9	28	3	-	2	29	3	2	7	-	-	-	83
Articles	19	33	2	3	2	82	2	-	120	4	-	-	267
Books	13	27	4	3	3	38	1	3	72	-	-	-	164
Business & Management Aspect	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	2	-	-	8
Copy Right and Fair Use	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	5
Data Sets	12	21	4	1	з	12	2	1	14	-	-	-	70
Databases Descriptions	18	6	2	2	-	18	1	1	15	1	-	-	64
Economic Aspect	2	4	1	-	-	11	3	1	16	-	-	-	38
Environmental Aspect	4	3	1	1	-	15	4	1	13	1	-	-	43
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)	7	13	2	1	3	7	1	-	24	1	-	-	59
Evaluation of Sources	6	14	2	-	2	8	4	3	15	1	-	-	55
Handbooks	4	5	1	1	-	3	-	-	6	-	-	-	20
Home	34	115	19	20	25	120	22	14	195	4	-	-	568
International	6	4	1	-	1	6	-	1	6	-	-	-	25
Managing Citations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	-	-	-	7

Library Workshop

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Lessons Learned

- Students were enthusiastic about participating
- Students were interested in when relevant example was used
- Uneven student information skill level (suggest introductory class for transfer students)

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Lessons Learned (cont'd)

Learn from teaching

- Individual teaching -> classroom lecturing -> project based teaching -> *learner-centered teaching*
- Show them the "tricks" (e.g. EndNote, annotated bibliography, LibX GT)
- Learn from the students (e.g. invited to student project presentations)

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Discussions

- Students pay series attention to IL classes if it is emphasized especially by teaching faculty.
- Students are curious to learn how to search databases effectively, though some of them may not have enough patience.
- Reference analysis and other assessment measures. (quality, quantity)

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Conclusion

- Teaching information literacy through senior projects can be an effective way to engage students in learning.
- Collaborating with teaching faculty, librarians can win trust and embrace new opportunities.
- Be flexible and willing to learn and implement new methods in teaching information literacy.

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Bibliographies

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Questions?





Thanks!

