

Can You Credit This? A Credit-Bearing Information Literacy Course for Graduate Health Science Students

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Overview

- Background and Context
- Course Development
- Syllabus
- Evaluation
- Next Steps

6 Academic Colleges + UFHealth



UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA
College of Nursing



UF
COLLEGE of
DENTISTRY



Background

Colleges of Medicine and Public Health and Health Professions integrate librarians via:

- Course-Integrated Lectures & Support
- Library stand-alone workshops



GMS 5909: Finding Biomedical Research Information and Communicating Science

- Designed to introduce the most important concepts, resources, methods, and tools used in searching for and communicating biomedical information - both literature and data.
- Students explore topics including literature searching, bibliographic citation software, basic NCBI resources, funding sources, data management, and plagiarism and information ethics.

GMS 5909: Course Development and Structure

- Syllabus developed and submitted to the curriculum committees:
 - College of Medicine
 - UF Graduate School
- Feedback from the COM curriculum committee incorporated into syllabus prior to submission to the graduate school level
- 9 classes, held twice a week
- Semi-flipped model
- Frequent instructional team meetings to review course content and activities

Now What?

- GMS 5909 successfully taught for 2 semesters
- Modular format allows for easy adaption
- Multiple PhD programs in the College of Public Health and Health Professions:
 - Audiology
 - Biostatistics
 - Clinical and Health Psychology
 - Epidemiology
 - Public Health (4 concentrations)
 - Rehabilitation Science
 - Speech-Language Pathology

New Course Approval Process

- Initial conversations with PHHP Associate Dean for Educational Affairs
- Meetings with stakeholders: discussed timing and content
- Offered as a “special topics” course

PHC 6937: Finding Health Research Information and Communicating Science

Course logistics:

- Taught over the summer A semester (May 14 – June 22)
- 6 registered students
- 5 were from Public Health (MPH and PhD) and 1 from Pharmacy (PhD)

PHC 6937: Finding Health Research Information and Communicating Science

What's New:

- Two modules were swapped for more relevant content (systematic reviews and grey literature)
- Public Health liaison librarian brought in as additional instructor
- Taught different databases

Course Content

- **Class 1** – Searching the Biomedical and Health Literature: PubMed, MeSH, and MyNCBI
- **Class 2** – Searching the Biomedical and Health Literature: WOS and CINAHL
- **Class 3** – Organizing your Information: Refworks, Endnote, Mendeley, Papers
- **Class 4** – Grants: What you Need to Know Before and After Submitting

Course Content

- Class 5 – Data Management: Best Practices, Requirements, Resources
- Class 6 – Introduction to Systematic Reviews
- Class 7 – Grey Literature Resources
- Class 8 – Plagiarism, Citing, and Ethical Use of Information
- Class 9 – Measuring and Increasing your Research Visibility and Impact

Activities and Homework

- Example activities include:
 - Comparing searches from various literature databases
 - Analyzing search strategies
 - Creating accounts in different citation management tools
 - Creating an NIH Biosketch and data management plan



Assessments

- 2 quizzes – one mid course and one at the end
- Each instructor developed 3-4 questions based on the sessions they led
- Quizzes were auto-graded in Canvas
- Short answer quiz responses were team graded by all of the instructors
- Class participation – individually assessed by leader of each course session

Evaluation

- Informal feedback from students
- No formal course evaluation data



Lessons Learned from Adapting Courses

- Think ahead when designing courses
- Be persistent and flexible
- Course approval and registration processes for library-taught courses can vary
- Successful course terms differ by program



