ASSESSMENT in ACTION INITIATIVE

GOALS

- Determine how well our current instruction techniques and material work
- Provide us with evidence to help promote our instruction sessions and library services
- Strengthen networks with both our instructors and other departments on campus
- Learn about assessment and how to conduct meaningful assessment

RESEARCH QUESTION: ARE THE INFORMATION LITERACY SESSIONS CONDUCTED IN THE UNIVERSITY 1301 CLASSES EFFECTIVE IN DEVELOPING STUDENTS’ RESEARCH SKILLS AND DO THEY CONTRIBUTE TO STUDENT SUCCESS?

• Determine how well our current instruction techniques and material work
• Provide us with evidence to help promote our instruction sessions and library services
• Strengthen networks with both our instructors and other departments on campus
• Learn about assessment and how to conduct meaningful assessment

METHODS

Participants: 5 University 1301 classes with 25 students each (Freshman)
1 Research Methods class with 32 students (Sophomores)

Data collected:
- pretest and posttest surveys,
- (10 questions of how students find, gather, and evaluate information)
- library assignment during the library session or evaluation survey (+ librarians observational notes)
- collected students’ research bibliographies or reference lists
  (compared to rubric scale created to assess how students incorporated information literacy skills)

*Students had the option to answer the pre and posttest as well as attending the library session. However all bibliographies/reference lists were collected for comparison purposes.

INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD (IRB)

Participants: 5 University 1301 classes with 25 students each (Freshman)
1 Research Methods class with 32 students (Sophomores)

Data collected:
- pretest and posttest surveys,
- (10 questions of how students find, gather, and evaluate information)

Sample Question:

JUNE JULY AUGUST SEPTEMBER DECEMBER

All of the members of the project did the required IRB training.
Team Leader and campus partner met with IRB and were told project qualified for IRB exemption.
The campus partner submitted our proposal.

JUNE JULY AUGUST SEPTEMBER DECEMBER

All faculty/instructors participated in our AIA project did the IRB training
This requirement affected the number of faculty and instructors who were willing to participate.
Team Leader was notified that IRB had in fact received our application, and that all data we had collected was usable, thus future collection of data could be collected.

FEEDBACK

Did Library Session made a difference in student's capstone project?
YES
NO

Would you consider any future collaborations with the UTEP Library?
YES
NO

EXPECTED BENEFITS

UTEP LIBRARY INFORMATION LITERACY COURSE ENHANCEMENT GRANT

AIA involvement caught university Provost’s attention, who consulted librarians about addressing students’ IL skills.
Collaboration with Provost lead to development of Information Literacy Course Enhancement Grant.
AIA team leader now invited to campus-wide groups where librarians have rarely been considered essential.
First opportunity to fit information IL and broad assessment measures into an already-established course.
Experience in the pilot and fall courses has served as a tremendous learning experience for the librarians involved.

FUTURE

• Project SAILS (Standardized Assessment of Information Literacy Skills) product will be purchased to measure incoming undergraduate students’ information literacy skills.
• The Information Literacy Course Enhancement Grant:
  Created as an incentive for faculty and instructors to collaborate with librarians on information literacy instruction.
  Inclusion of assessment measures required of grant winners; librarians will have opportunities to learn about assessment from faculty partners.