Beyond the One Shot: Creating a Course for Sustained Adult Learning

Makiba Foster  
*Washington University in St Louis*

Kristine Helbling  
*Washington University in St Louis*

---

Follow this and additional works at: [http://openscholarship.wustl.edu/lib_present](http://openscholarship.wustl.edu/lib_present)  
Part of the *Curriculum and Instruction Commons*, and the *Library and Information Science Commons*

---

**Recommended Citation**  
Foster, Makiba and Helbling, Kristine, "Beyond the One Shot: Creating a Course for Sustained Adult Learning" (2015). *University Libraries Presentations*. Book 12,  
[http://openscholarship.wustl.edu/lib_present/12](http://openscholarship.wustl.edu/lib_present/12)

---

This Poster is brought to you for free and open access by the University Libraries at Washington University Open Scholarship. It has been accepted for inclusion in University Libraries Presentations by an authorized administrator of Washington University Open Scholarship. For more information, please contact emily.stenberg@wustl.edu, digital@wumail.wustl.edu.
Beyond the One-Shot: Creating a Course for Sustained Adult Learning

Makiba Foster, Subject Librarian and Kristine Helbling, Instruction Coordinator

Washington University in St. Louis

Mastering Research in Today’s Academic Library is a General Studies pass/fail course that provides students with tools and skills to:

- Efficiently evaluate and select appropriate high-quality resources.
- Demystify the organization of academic libraries.
- Conduct academic research thoroughly and proficiently.
- Use information ethically and responsibly.
- Apply to any information-seeking situation.

By enrolling adult students, recognize the need to improve research skills to successfully complete assignments in other courses.

Course activities help adult students apply their work/life related skill sets to information seeking.

Of the 650 library instruction courses at the University last year, less than 3% were provided to evening and part-time programs.

PERSUADING THE ADMINISTRATORS

Degree-seeking evening college enrollment: 1,340 students:
- 771 undergraduates enrolled in evening and part-time programs
- 832 graduate and professional students enrolled in evening and part-time programs

This is approximately 12% of the University’s total student enrollment.

Total Evening & Day Enrollment

- Undergraduate Evening & Part-Time
- Graduate and Professional Evening & Part-Time
- Undergraduate Day School Divisions
- Graduate and Professional Day School Divisions

THE STUDENTS & THE LIBRARY

THE FEEDBACK

What did you like most about this course?
“It helped me become familiar with all of the university's resources that I probably wouldn't have discovered on my own.”

What would you tell another student about this course?
“This is a class for a student that just started back to school and needs to know the very basics of research.”

“Take this course it will help you throughout your research.”

What would you like to tell the instructor?
“I enjoyed having her as an instructor and will seek assistance from her throughout my career at the university.”

“She is the best for helping you get through some difficult research topics.”

What did you like least about this course?
“We spent a lot of time on simple computer issues and it made the course very slow.”

“What long enough.”

THE DISCOVERIES & NEXT STEPS

An unexpected discovery from teaching this class was learning that some returning adult learners' computer skills were lacking.

- We recommended that the evening program include a basic computer course.
- We offered outside class consultations on computer basics.
- We directed students to community and campus resources to improve computer competency.

Our next steps include:
- Offering an online version of this course.
- Strategizing and collaborating with partners to better market course.

THE BIBLIOGRAPHY


For additional information please contact:
Makiba Foster or Kristine Helbling
Olin Library
Washington University in St. Louis
mfoster@wustl.edu or helbling@wustl.edu