The IL Incubator: Exploring Information Literacy Skill Gaps in Secondary School Curricula and Postsecondary Research Expectations

Colleen Burgess & Gordana Vitez
Introductions

Colleen Burgess, MA MLIS, Research & Instructional Services Librarian

The D.B. Weldon Library at the University of Western Ontario

Gordana Vitez, MLIS, Library Services and Systems Coordinator

Niagara College Libraries

...YOU! Tell us a little bit about yourselves
Bridging the Gap & OCULA

How to prepare secondary school students for academic research - bridging the gap #OCULA2015
Sitting with the Problem

Which communities are involved?

What is the “gap” from their perspective?

We’re academic librarians...we need input from the secondary system!

Original image by Matthey Dutile [www.flickr.com/photos/mdutile/3289061063/](www.flickr.com/photos/mdutile/3289061063/)
Caveat: Avoiding the Blame Game

inayatscorner.wordpress.com
Crossing the Threshold

Original image by John Cliff https://openclipart.org/detail/26958/roadsign-drawbridge
Limitations of our Research

Social Science and Arts & Humanities excluding STEM

Ontario Curriculum excluding nation wide review of the IL curriculum

International students

Socio-economic factors, Rural vs. Urban factors, Digital Divide
Literature Review Findings

From info seeking behaviour to skill levels.

Do students *know* they have a problem? *Do they* have a problem?

Test IL skill level, not learning interventions.

Student’s perception vs. reality of their abilities

Students: they don’t know what they don’t know.

The gap between students’ and faculties’ research expectations of 1 yr students.
Research Qs and Design

Consider your grade 12 students’ research skills, and rate each skill according to your view of their readiness to complete academic research.

- Citation and bibliography methods
- Understanding the difference between scholarly materials and general reading materials
- Understanding the difference between Google and library databases
- Avoiding plagiarism
- Ability to critically evaluate information in building their own arguments or ideas
Research Qs and Design

very unprepared  unprepared  I don’t know  prepared  very prepared
Contributing Factors

Education institutions don’t speak to one another

The goals of secondary and postsecondary institutions are different

Inquiry-based learning

Class time allotted to IL

The dubious importance of IL

IL - Do they even know what it is?

...What are the other contributing factors?
Additional Ideas & Questions?

Original image by thetaxhaven https://www.flickr.com/photos/83532250@N06/7650739472
Contact Us!

We’d love to hear from you!

Gordana Vitez
gvitez@niagaracollege.ca

Colleen Burgess
caburges@uwo.ca
Overview of the Literature


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