



The IL Incubator:

Exploring Information Literacy Skill Gaps in
Secondary School Curricula and Postsecondary
Research Expectations

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Introductions

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...YOU! Tell us a little bit about yourselves

Bridging the Gap & OCULA



[Coll Burgess](#) @CollaLibrarian, 24 Apr 2015

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!

Caveat: Avoiding the Blame Game

inayatcorner.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!

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