INFORMATION LITERACY TOOLKITS FOR HBCU LIBRARIES

EMPHASIS: UNDERGRADUATE ORIGINAL RESEARCH

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Suitable Descriptions for Definition of Undergraduate Research

- Flexibility for all disciplines
- Collaborative works can be created by both students and faculty
- Sets a high-standard for original research and must fit within its own discipline
- Intent with creating new knowledge
- Goal should be to present original research at conferences and publish in peer-reviewed journals
What is Original Research?

Original Research:
- a study conducted by a researcher, written by the researcher who actually did the study.
- the researcher presents a research question and the reason for the study.
- the researcher presents details about their methods used for the study.
- results are presented about the study.
- researcher provides results for discussion.

Original Research Tool:
- **Infographic:** A research tool for students to use to start thinking about their research design or topic. They are considered in our language as mind maps.
- **View Sample Infographics by my students here:**
  - [http://tiny.cc/n8kptx](http://tiny.cc/n8kptx)
  - [http://tiny.cc/2dlptx](http://tiny.cc/2dlptx)
Ideal Undergraduate Research Project

Specifics of Research

- has clearly identified purpose and potential outcomes
- has well-defined objectives and methods
- research is substantial in scope
- can complete research in a timely fashion
- has contact with the specified discipline
- avoids repetitive work or style
- has advanced concepts
- has a comprehensive written report by producing a paper or poster

Original Research Tool

Posters: Excellent way for students to showcase their research!
Having the opportunity to create and define new knowledge is an important asset for undergraduate researchers. They must understand what research skills are to be empowered, have confidence, and the need for intellectual growth to complete a research project.

In order to achieve their goals they should have a solid mentor or faculty member to help them with the process.
USING THIS RESOURCE FOR HBCU INFORMATION LITERACY TOOLKITS

- Lib-guides are a great resource, but creating a toolkit for faculty to use within their classes is a major plus.
- Toolkits can be created specifically for faculty to use or students.
- It is a major plus if they are embedded in faculty departments and classes.
- Workshops are imperative for librarians to conduct with the entire university system regarding anything as it pertains to the research process or original research.
- Yes, information literacy has a place within the original research process. It is up to us to create one at our universities if there isn’t one.
This is an example of a Information Literacy toolkit, by The Ohio State University. It is one of the best that I have seen as a librarian. There are more to view if you are interested in setting a standard for research at your university. Additionally, it is a dynamic way to collaborate with faculty and students. The freedom to create a toolkit to fit your university is one of the best assets that you have as a librarian.
IN CONCLUSION...

“RESEARCH IS FORMALIZED CURIOSITY. IT IS POKING AND PRYING WITH A PURPOSE.”

ZORA NEALE HURSTON
RESEARCH COMPILED FROM THE FOLLOWING SOURCES

- **Slide #2:** Definition | Source: Tom Wenzal, Department of Chemistry, Bates College
- **Slide #3:** Original Research – LibGuides at University of North Florida
- **Slide #4:** Image Source: http://www.psychologicalscience.org/cfs/images/rules_clip_image001.gif
- **Slide #5:** Image Source: http://science.uniserve.edu.au/projects/skills/jantrial/images/research.jpg
- **Slide #7:** Image Source: http://library.osu.edu/toolkit/
- **Slide #8:** http://quotes.lifehack.org/media/quotes/quote-Zora-Neale-Hurston-research-is-formalized-curiosity-it-is-poking-110512.png
CREATING INFORMATION LITERACY TOOLKITS FOR HBCU LIBRARIES

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