WR 121
60-minute class
Note: this is a one-shot class
Leora Troper (library instructor)

Purpose: This library session will help you to learn to navigate the library website, evaluate which sources are most useful for your research, use library databases and citation tools, and evaluate the quality of outside (non-library) websites/webpages.

Skills: This session will touch on a wide variety of library skills. You will practice:
- Using the library website
- Using different databases and their tools
- Identifying the best sources for your specific research needs
- Evaluating outside sources using the SIFT method (described below)

Knowledge: These skills will help you with your college assignments, but you can also use them as you navigate our information rich world. Students will learn that there is a wide variety of materials available to them. They will learn that librarians are good resources for help. They will learn to evaluate sources they find through the library website and through a search engine. This knowledge is all applicable outside of the classroom and college. Learning to evaluate sources in our information-overloaded age is vital. Learning to ask for help when it's needed is also important, and often difficult for many.

Tasks:

1. Together, students and instructor will examine:
   - pcc library search vs ebsco search
   - videos vs books
   - credibility of wikipedia
   - biased vs non-biased articles

2. Instructor will demonstrate and students will practice using targeted databases:
   - Opposing Viewpoints
   - CINHAL (Health)
   - Education Research Guide

3. Instructor will demonstrate and students will use citation tools:
   - Mybib

4. Instructor and students will explore using and evaluating outside sources
   - Domain names - are they reliable
   - Media Bias fact check (https://mediabiasfactcheck.com/)
   - Evaluating outside sources: Reading like a fact checker or SIFT (https://hapgood.us/2019/06/19/sift-the-four-moves/)

i. STOP: Do you know this source? If not, look around: Pay attention to the domain and URL. Read the "About Us" section. Look online to see what its reputation is.

ii. INVESTIGATE: Who created the source? What is their expertise and agenda?

iii. FIND: trusted coverage. What do other sources say about the topic in this article?

iv. TRACE: claims, quotes, and media back to the original context. Look at the quotes in a story and who said them. Do a reverse image search if there's an important image attached.

Criteria for success:

Success will be measured in the following ways:

1. Students will feel confident helping other colleagues, friends, and family to use the tools covered in this session.
2. Students will feel comfortable directing others to the library for help.
3. Students will feel comfortable asking librarians for help with any future projects.
4. Informal assessment at the end of class. (Show of hands)

Troper, L. (2021, January 4). *College composition (WR 121) course assignment* [Assignment prompt]. Pacific University Orgon Research Repository. https://commons.pacificu.edu/work/ns/d538a6e7-b78e-44d1-81de-263a643262c8