

Assessing Student Learning Through Collaboration

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Why Collaborate?

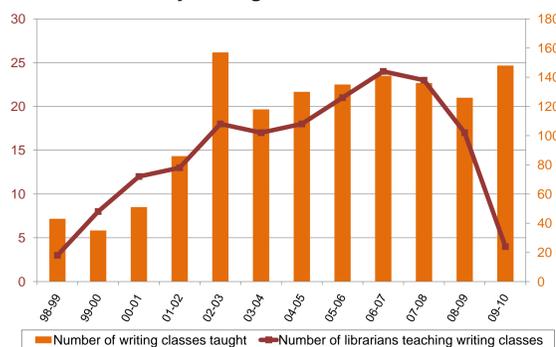
Writing Program curriculum included research skills instruction

- Faculty relied on library to provide this instruction
- Program faculty are experts in course goals and context

Library needed a scalable instructional method and proof of effectiveness

- Number of available instruction librarians reduced by 75%
- Chose online tutorial as method, needed to demonstrate student learning

Library Writing Classes 1998-2010



Office of Institutional Research and Assessment had knowledge and resources

- Neutral third party enhanced results credibility
- More available resources for data collection and analysis
- Understood methods for evaluating student learning

Roles and Responsibilities

Library
create tutorial

- Develop focus of tutorial learning
- Connect tutorial content to Writing 105 curriculum
- Share assessment results

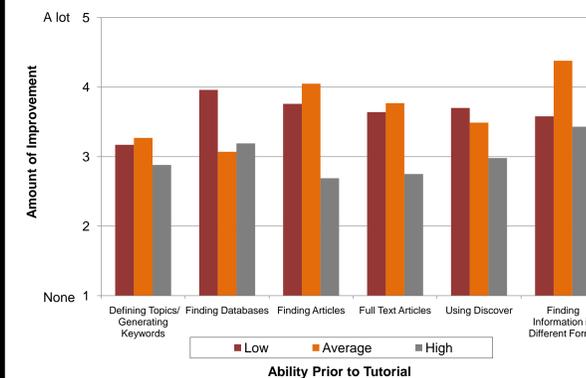
- Establish measurable learning outcomes
- Determine assessment methodologies
- Prepare assessment tools

Writing Program
gather faculty and student feedback

- Discuss assessment approach
- Coordinate administration of assessment components
- Reflect on the learning experience

OIRA
conduct assessment

Knowledge Gained



- Identified ways to refine a search
- Found relevant and credible sources
- Broadened use and understanding of databases
- Discovered a more effective approach than searching the web
- Changed research approach

Writing Program Course Goals

- Students compose texts as a process, thinking and rethinking ideas
- Students learn strategies and genres of critical analysis and argument
- Students learn critical reading techniques
- Students include critical research in composing process

The Productive Researcher Modules

The Productive Researcher
Defining a Topic & Generating Keywords
Finding Databases
Finding Articles in Library Databases
Finding Full Text Articles
Using Discover to Find Library Materials
Using Databases to Find Materials in Different Formats
Glossary
About The Productive Researcher

http://library.syr.edu/services/getting_help/instruction/productive_researcher/index.php

Assessment Methodology

- Pre/Post Gain Test
- Reflective Essay
- Course Evaluation
- Instructor Interview

Results

Demonstrated students' attainment of learning outcomes

Validated model's viability for future tutorials

Enhanced understanding of the assessment process

Strengthened Library/OIRA collaborative relationship

Preserved Library's strong collaborative relationship with the Writing Program