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The Subject Librarian Newsletter, Communication, Spring 2014

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NSC NEWSLETTER

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IT’S NOW MARCH. Mid-terms are over. Spring break has come and gone. We are at that point in the academic year when – as one of *my* college professors observed – for both faculty and students the semester frequently becomes more a test of endurance than a test of intelligence.

Nonetheless, there are projects to be completed and papers to be written before commencement in a few weeks. To that end, if you need research assistance, do not hesitate to contact me. And especially if your students need library help, by all means refer them to me.

Also bear in mind that if you wish the Libraries to acquire materials (especially monographs) that will be used to support your course(s) this summer or next fall, please forward those requests through your department’s library liaison or send them to me directly.

Infolit: Information Literacy Modules

The Infolit modules were developed by the UCF Libraries and the Center for Distributed Learning. The modules are supplemental resources available for use by faculty to help them teach concepts related to finding, evaluating, and ethically using information sources. The modules are designed for both face-to-face and online courses. Each module contains a practice section and a scored assessment that can be synced to the Canvas gradebook.

Currently there are 14 online modules, including: “Conducting a Literature Review,” “Creating a Search Strategy,” “Evaluating Web Sites,” “Focusing an Information Search,” “Recognizing a Research Study,” and “Selecting Articles for Academic Assignments.”

For more information about the Infolit modules, go to <http://infolit.ucf.edu>.

Fast Facts

The UCF Libraries’ Interlibrary Loan service:

Once received a box of rocks for a patron

Has received from other libraries over 1,000 requests in the past 10 years for articles from the journal *Strategic HR Review*, making this the most requested journal at UCF

BRITISH PERIODICALS: A NEW DIGITAL PRIMARY SOURCE

As the consequence of a successful Student Technology Fee proposal that was written in conjunction with the departments of History and English, the UCF Libraries have added the British Periodicals digital collection to its growing list of online primary source materials that also include the Eighteenth Century Collections Online (ECCO) and the Nineteenth Century Collections Online (NCCO).

The British Periodicals database provides access to approximately 460 periodical titles and over six million pages published from the late seventeenth century to the early twentieth, comprising millions of high-resolution facsimile page images. Topics covered include literature, philosophy, history, science, the social sciences, music, art, drama, archaeology and architecture. Among the journals in this collection are Richard Steele’s *The Tatler* (1709-1711), *Grub Street Journal* (1730-1738), *Strand Magazine* (1891-1906), and *Blackwood’s Edinburg Magazine* (1817-1902). It also includes original works by such individuals as Alexander Pope, John Stuart Mill, Alfred Lord Tennyson, and Rudyard Kipling.

By providing digital access to the key titles from this time period, British Periodicals opens up research to a much wider audience. This uniquely powerful multidisciplinary database finally gives students and researchers a clear pathway to detailed and exhaustive content previously unavailable online. All of this content is available in full page images with searchable full text. Users can filter results down to article type and download articles in PDF format. Each facsimile page is available in both a high resolution bitonal version, for ease of on-screen reading, and in a high resolution grayscale version, providing scholars with an authentic and detailed record of the printed source.

The British Periodicals collection can be found listed alphabetically on the Libraries’ database page: <http://library.ucf.edu/Databases>.

UCF LIBRARIES PURCHASE SAGE ONLINE COLLECTIONS

With the recent purchase of the SAGE Knowledge and SAGE Research Methods collections, the UCF Libraries have made a major e-book investment to support instruction and research in the social sciences and beyond.

SAGE Knowledge. SAGE Knowledge brings more than 2,700 SAGE e-books, e-handbooks, and e-reference works to UCF readers – the complete SAGE Knowledge collection from its beginning in 1994 through its 2013 releases. Subject areas covered by the collection include education, business and management, sociology, communication and media studies, counseling, health care, social work, psychology, politics and international relations, criminology, and geography. A sampling of titles includes *Advertising in Modern and Postmodern Times* (2007), *The African American Electorate: A Statistical History* (2012), and *The Social History of Crime and Punishment in America: An Encyclopedia* (2012).

SAGE Research Methods. This methods tool was created to help researchers, faculty, and students with their research projects. It links over 175,000 pages of SAGE’s renowned book, journal, and reference content with truly advanced search and discovery tools. Researchers can explore methods concepts to help them design research projects, understand particular methods or identify a new method, conduct their research, and write their findings. Since SAGE Research Methods focuses on methodology rather than disciplines, it can be used across the social sciences, health sciences, and more.

Both SAGE collections provide for unlimited simultaneous users, creating opportunities for faculty to use these titles in class or as course texts.