Bridging the skill gap: Helping non-traditional students develop research skills when they need it most

3-8-2019

Christina C. Wray
christina.wray@ucf.edu

Renee C. Montgomery
University of Central Florida, rmontgomery@ucf.edu

Find similar works at: https://stars.library.ucf.edu/ucfscholar

University of Central Florida Libraries http://library.ucf.edu

Part of the Adult and Continuing Education Commons, and the Higher Education Commons

Original Citation

Montgomery, R. C., & Wray, C. C. (2019, March 9) Bridging the gap: Helping non-traditional students develop research skills when they need it most. Presented at the Alliance for Higher Education Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL.

This Conference Presentation is brought to you for free and open access by STARS. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Scholarship and Creative Works by an authorized administrator of STARS. For more information, please contact lee.dotson@ucf.edu.
Bridging the skill gap:

Helping non-traditional students develop research skills when they need it most

Renee C. Montgomery
Outreach Librarian
University of Central Florida

Christina C. Wray
Digital Learning & Engagement Librarian
University of Central Florida
Objectives

At the end of this program you will be able to:

- Identify hidden curriculum skills non-traditional students struggle with
- Construct scaffolded skill building paths
- Identify campus and community partnership opportunities
What is the hidden curriculum?

Learning how to identify skills students need to succeed, but are not explicitly taught.
Information Literacy Skills are Cultural Constructs

Using the ACRL Information Literacy Framework to identify hidden curriculum
Six Frames of Information Literacy

- Authority Is Constructed and Contextual
- Information Creation as a Process
- Information Has Value
- Research as Inquiry
- Scholarship as Conversation
- Searching as Strategic Exploration
Non-Traditional Students

At UCF
### Enrollment

- **Total**: 68,571
- **Undergraduate**: 58,913
  - **Freshman (New Admit)**: 4,033
  - **Transfer (New Admit)**: 6,907
- **Graduate**: 9,168
- **Medical Professional**: 490

### UCF Online Enrollment

- **Total**: 5,007
- **Undergraduate**: 2,897
- **Graduate**: 2,110

### Age Distribution

- **Freshman**: 18.5
- **Sophomore**: 19.6
- **Junior**: 22.3
- **Senior**: 24.8
- **Over Age 25**: 22%
- **Average Age**: 23.8
- **Master’s**: 29.9
- **Specialist**: 29.7
- **Doctoral**: 31.9
- **Professional**: 25.9
- **Undergraduate**: 22.7
- **Graduate**: 30.8
### Current Headcount by Student Classification: Fall 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College</th>
<th>Undergraduate</th>
<th>Graduate</th>
<th>Medicine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FTIC</td>
<td>27,333</td>
<td>6,264</td>
<td>2,160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer</td>
<td>29,931</td>
<td>404</td>
<td>336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Undergrad</td>
<td>1,639</td>
<td></td>
<td>491</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Fall Semesters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Undergraduate</th>
<th>FTIC</th>
<th>Term</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>24,706</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>26,489</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Undergrad</td>
<td>1,341</td>
<td>1,563</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Graduate</th>
<th>Master's</th>
<th>Term</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5,355</td>
<td>5,503</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
According to article from Orlando Sentinel in 2016, 65% of incoming UCF students were transfers students. Among the estimated 6,700 incoming UCF transfer students, their average age was 23.

Also due to the DirectConnect Program 27,000 students have received degrees since 2008-2009. **

** https://www.orlandosentinel.com/features/education/os-ucf-incoming-freshmen-it-was-another-long-night-as-pyper-anderson-took-her-pl-20160809-story.html
Students feel they struggle the most with

1. Keeping up with readings/homework
2. Studying for exams
3. Presenting in class
Students often feel

1. Overwhelmed by coursework
2. They don’t know how to start research projects
3. Confused when searching for sources
Students are least confident about

1. Managing Stress
2. Time Management
3. Citing Sources in APA or MLA
Research Tips Tuesdays

Targeting Transfer and pre-Transfer students

https://guides.ucf.edu/rtt
Constructing scaffolded skill building paths
Getting Help for our friends

Utilizing Campus & Community partnerships
DiRECT CONNECT™
TO UCF

OUR PARTNERS

UCF
CONVENIENT LOCATIONS

- UCF Orlando
- UCF Online
- UCF Altamonte Springs
- UCF Cocoa
- UCF Daytona Beach
- UCF Leesburg
- UCF Ocala
- UCF Palm Bay
- UCF Sanford/Lake Mary
- UCF South Lake
- UCF Valencia East
- UCF Valencia Osceola
- UCF Valencia West
Research Tips Tuesdays

Streaming Live Webinars
An Online and In-the-Library webinar series.
Tuesday, once a month, a 40-minute online webinar with a 20-minute Q&A session. Learn of the Ah-Ha! skills you can use immediately and watch your research and writing process excel. Sign Up Today!

Open to Valencia and UCF students

• Boost Research Skills
• Connect Live or On-Line

PLANNING YOUR WRITING PROJECT
February 12, 2019
1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

AVOIDING PLAGIARISM
March 19, 2019
10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

SPEED STUDYING
April 9, 2019
1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

LOCATIONS:
UCF Valencia College West Library
Building 11, Room 106

UCF Valencia College Osceola Library
Building 4, Room 215

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
UCF VALENCIA WEST CENTER
Lily Mills
lily.mills@ucf.edu

UCF VALENCIA OSCLEOLA CENTER
Judy Kahrm
judith.kahr@ucf.edu

Research Tips Tuesdays

Are you interested in becoming a better researcher? Want to waste less time during the research process so you can write better papers? Join us for Research Tips Tuesdays! One Tuesday a month we will be offering 40 minute online sessions with an additional 20 minutes for questions on skills you can use to make the research process more efficient. Fill out the form below and check which sessions you would like to attend. We will be taking Dec. off, but will be back with more sessions in the spring!

Stress Free Searching
January 15th
10:30—11:30 AM

Planning your Writing Project
February 12, 2019
1:00—2:00 PM

Avoiding Plagiarism
March 15, 2019
10:30—11:30 AM

Speed Studying
April 9th, 2019
1:00—2:00 PM
Questions?

Renee C. Montgomery
Outreach Librarian
University of Central Florida

Christina C. Wray
Digital Learning & Engagement Librarian
University of Central Florida