Methods

- In 2008, a group of faculty and librarians codeveloped a short instrument to gauge student perception on:
  - Research Habits
  - Resource Use
  - Library Use
  - Library Services
- Tool is used by approximately 20 courses each semester
- Results are provided to faculty member for their class and the overall results
- The faculty member and librarian work together to adjust assignments based upon student perceptions.

Results: Not Surprising [3498 responses]

Google is the first place I look for information.

Grades motivate me to find the best information possible.

Results: Variable

Wikipedia is a Scholarly Resource

There are too many restrictions on resources I can use.

Results: Somewhat Surprising

The amount of information available overwhelms me.

I generally believe most information I find.

Results: Intriguing

I am confident in my ability to use technology.

Examining the Role of Wikipedia in Scholarship

Several introductory history courses chose to have students create and revise existing Wikipedia articles. This helped students to better understand the nature of Wikipedia, and how the source is different from the sources they used to write the article.

Flexible Source Requirements

Depending on student development and interest, some students in courses are given more flexible guidelines on resource use. For those that insist on prescriptive formulas, special care is taken to help them explore the sources and their appropriateness in the research project.

Rethinking Google in a Research Context

Rather than pitting Google vs. other sources, faculty encourage students to think about how to use Google effectively for research, and how other sources are needed to fill in gaps.

Effectively Writing about the Ideas of Others

Faculty saw these results as a huge mismatch to their experience, and concluded that students believe they do know how to effectively summarize and paraphrase (but in fact do know). They agreed to workshops and review sessions in high-level classes that reinforce these ideas, from the perspective of a disciplinary scholar.

Revisiting CRAAP

In annotated bibliographies at all levels, students specifically note how Currency, Relevance, Authority, Accuracy, and Purpose play a role in each source and its quality.

Critically Thinking about Searching

Assignments such as research journals help students to actively thinking about their search strategies and the sources that they find. The objective is to help students develop a healthy cynicism about the information they find.

Demographics