Library Instruction Session

Course: Core 110 – The Academic Voice
Lesson: Source Types

Core 110 Lesson Objectives of Library Sessions (objectives for this lesson highlighted):
Students will be able to…
- Apply a source evaluation model to a news article found on the open web.
- Identify how to incorporate a source into a paper by summary, paraphrase, or quotation.
- Identify the roles and uses of source types used in academic research.
- Demonstrate how to incorporate a source into a paper by summary, paraphrase, or quotation.
- Locate peer-reviewed journal articles through library-operated and open-web search indexes.
- Acknowledge common pitfalls and benefits of searching scholarly indexes.

Handouts/Lesson Materials:
- Handout: Determining Source Types
- Video: Josh Vossler’s Types of Information. Kaltura, Vimeo
- Game: Kahoot Name that Source!

Anticipatory Set / Hook: Ask students the following:
- Give the students different scenarios and ask what type of source they will use.
  - You are wanting to take your new crush out to a nice restaurant, how will you determine where to go?
  - You’re arguing with your roommate about who starred in your favorite show from sophomore year of high school. How do you settle the argument?
  - You’re planning a spring break trip, where will you go to prepare for the trip?
  - You are finishing an open book take home assignment and can’t find one answer anywhere in the textbook. What do you do?

Modeling: Introduce search strategies
- Have students watch Josh Vossler’s Types of Information video / video lesson before or at the start of class
- Review:
  - Can we name the four types of information from the videos?
    - Encyclopedia articles, scholarly articles, monograph books, news articles
  - What did Josh (the video narrator) have to say about including sources that disagree with your thesis? What did you think about that?

Guided Practice: Live Example
- Librarian will guide students through common types of information sources and their role in college level research. Might be worth having a specific topic and then show examples of each (like Carnivorous/Insectivorous plants, Venus flytrap).

- **Encyclopedia articles**
  - Example: [Wikipedia article](#) (good), [Credo Reference article](#) (best)
  - Role:
    - Quick information. Provides background information, proper terms for the topic, and key sources on the topic.
  - In practice:
    - I learned another term for *carnivorous plants* is *insectivorous plants*. I also learned that Charles Darwin wrote a book on the subject, and four newer standard books on the topic I can get from the library.

- **News articles**
  - Example: [NYTimes article](#) (library subscription), [Scientific American](#) (sometimes for purchase)
  - Role:
    - Current information. Sometimes the best researched information available on a new topic or event.
  - In practice:
    - I learned about some recent research studies on carnivorous plants, and the names of some current researchers studying this topic.

- **Monograph books**
  - Example: [Print book](#)
  - Role:
    - In depth information about specific aspects of a topic. For academic books individual chapters can be very helpful.
  - In practice:
    - I found an academic book on carnivorous plants with a great introduction chapter on the topic and other chapters on specific plants. I didn’t read the whole book, but pulled from relevant areas.

- **Scholarly articles**
  - Example: [EBSCO article](#) (library access), [Google Scholar article](#) (for purchase)
  - Role:
    - Super focused, reporting on a specific research conducted or a review of a collection of research studies. Helpful for current research on a specific topic.
  - In practice:
    - I found two peer reviewed articles on my topic, the Google Scholar one I requested via interlibrary loan. They were more focused than
my original research question, and used vocabulary that I wasn’t entirely familiar with until looking back at the book chapters and newspaper articles I consulted. Other articles had words I didn’t understand so I did not use them.

- How to incorporate information by paraphrasing, quoting, etc.
  - **New York Times article**
    - Summary: A carnivorous plant in Borneo eats bat poop (Angier, 2015).
    - Paraphrase: On the southeast Asian island Borneo grows a carnivorous pitcher plant which eats bat excrement (Angier, 2015).
    - Quotation: Researchers discovered that “a pitcher plant in Borneo supplements its insectivorous diet with regular helpings of bat guano” (Angier, 2015).
  - **EBSCO article**
    - Summary: Pitcher plants that consume bat excrement have a more diverse bacteria makeup than other pitcher plants (Sickel et al., 2015).
    - Paraphrase: The bacterial makeup of the *Nepenthes hemsleyana* pitcher plant is more diverse than other tropical pitcher plants, such as Raffles’ pitcher-plant, due to its consumption of bat excrement (Sickel et al., 2015).
    - Quotation: Another study found that the “fluid diversity of *N. hemsleyana* was probably increased due to bacteria introduced by bat faeces, which would not occur in *N. rafflesiana*” (Sickel et al., 2015).