Library Instruction Session

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

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: Practice Handout Evaluating Sources (SIFT)
- Source Examples: Source Deck
- Video: SIFT (The Four Moves) Overview (7:55). Kaltura, YouTube
- Social media account with hyper-partisan news sources or Google News

Anticipatory Set / Hook: Ask students the following:
- 1. How do you decide to reshare it or not?
- 2. What are your motivations for sharing?

Modeling: Introduce SIFT
- Have students watch SIFT Overview video / video lesson before or at the start of class
- Review: What is SIFT? Do any of you remember what the letters stand for?

Guided Practice: Live Example
- Begin by support the good work students are sharing.
  ○ Note that in college you will engage with new and different information networks. Some of the skills you already have you will need, and other skills you will want to develop.
  ○ I know you are all smart, just humor me as we test out what we learned with SIFT.
- Examine and walk through SIFT using a news source from social media, Google News, or similar sources. Could even apply back questions one and two.
  ○ S - Stop: (remember the following)
    ■ Do you know the website and its reputation? Don’t read or share until you do. Don’t take candy from strangers.
Before possibly going down a rabbit hole, *don’t forget your original purpose.*

- **I - Investigate the Source:**
  - Just add Wikipedia. Look up this source in Wikipedia. What interests / agenda may they have?

- **F - Find Better Coverage:**
  - Look up the story in the *best source* you can get. Look up the claim in one of the national newspapers GC subscribes to.
  - (If time permits) Look up across various sites to see how it is covered.

- **T - Trace Claims, Quotes, and Media to the Original Context:**
  - Sometimes an article cites a study or a specific source. Instead of taking someone else’s word (or interpretation) of the source, take a minute to look at the original.

Check Understanding: Handout

- Pass out the [Practice Handout Evaluating Sources (SIFT)](#).
  - Give each student one or more sources (use [Source Deck](#) as a option)
  - Google the sources to find them, or look them up on the library website
  - Have students complete, as they go through these walk across the room to see how they are doing.
  - At the end of class discuss:
    - What was challenging about this? What was easy?