CSU-Pueblo Library and Academic Resources Center
Library Instruction Program Assessment Plan

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Library Mission

The Colorado State University - Pueblo Library supports the university's mission of fostering academic excellence, student success, and diversity by teaching students to identify, evaluate, and apply information resources effectively; providing access for CSU-Pueblo to high-quality information resources and services that support teaching, learning and research; and promoting cultural appreciation and lifelong learning throughout the campus and community.

Instruction Program Mission

The Library Instruction Program's mission is to support the library through helping the campus community use library resources and encouraging the development of information literacy in individuals.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Students identify key services in order to know what the library can provide to them.
2. Students differentiate research tools in order to make informed and useful decisions about how to gather trustworthy information.
3. Students construct search strategies in a variety of search systems in order to manipulate results within an information retrieval system.
4. Students apply criteria in order to evaluate information sources.
5. Students recognize the economic, legal, and social issues related to the use of another person's words or ideas and are able to cite and use their sources in an ethical and legal manner.

Curriculum

The library instruction program is built around individual sessions with classes from across campus. Sessions are initiated by teaching faculty members who request instruction for their classes, and it is the comments of these faculty members which guide the specific learning outcomes addressed in each session. Students have opportunities to demonstrate their learning of these outcomes by completing evaluations following library instruction, as well as by employing these skills when completing their coursework.

Assessment Methods

The library assesses student learning using both direct and indirect methods. For direct assessment, the library employs paper and electronic evaluations which are completed by students following library instruction. These evaluations consist of open-ended questions tied to specific student learning outcomes and responses are rated with a rubric. The library also collects student reflection papers and bibliographies to assess the quality of the sources students are citing and ensuring that they are using information in a way that is ethical and effective. Additionally, the library is investing methods for assessing student learning following individual consultations. For indirect assessment, the library conducts a biennial satisfaction survey of students, faculty, and staff. While the survey addresses numerous library services, it contains several questions regarding perceptions of student information literacy skills.

Assessment Results

Following library instruction, student responses to evaluations are rated either "exemplary," "satisfactory," or "unsatisfactory." The library's strategic plan calls for 80% or more of assessment responses to rate "satisfactory" or higher. The results of library assessment are shared with course instructors to inform them of student information literacy skills, as well as suggest future areas of focus.

Continuous Processes

The Library Instruction Coordinator is responsible for program improvement and ensuring that prior results drive future changes. As assessment results are gathered from across campus, library instruction curriculum is evaluated at the end of each semester and readjusted as needed to ensure that students are meeting goals for learning and gaining the information literacy skills necessary to succeed at CSU-Pueblo and in future endeavors.