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Yale University Library Research Education Newsletter

Library Research Education Program

September 2009, Vol. 5

In This Issue

[Expanding Support for Undergrads](#)

[Rewriting History](#)

Quick Links

[Library Research Education Program](#)

[Workshop Calendar](#)

[Online Tutorials](#)

Welcome to the new academic year!

As the new semester begins, the Library is once again offering a full menu of orientation activities, tours, and workshops. For a look at the diversity of research education activities available to students and faculty, see <http://library.yale.edu/instruction>.

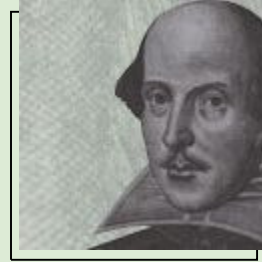
Save the Date

With the renovation of the Bass Library and the creation of the Collaborative Learning Center in 2007, a flexible teaching space (Bass L01) was established to enable innovative teaching. Bass L01 contains 17 Tablet PC computers that can be used in support of research education. In a session on the Tablet PCs, a colleague from the Instructional Technology Group will demonstrate how to use the tablets and offer instructional design tips for research education sessions. Join us:

September 23 10:00 - 11:00am (Bass Library L01)

Expanding Support for Undergraduates - English

One of the goals in the Library Research Education Program's strategic plan is ensuring that all pre-major undergraduate students gain basic skills by their junior year. This past spring, in support of this goal, the English Department acknowledged the growing need for beginning Yale undergraduates to develop library research skills. Working closely with Todd Gilman, the department has decided to increase the research education requirement for their students significantly. Library sessions have been integrated into the English 114 courses for over a decade. However, as of this fall, students in most 100-level English courses (English 114, 115, 116, 117, 120, 125, and 127) will be required to attend a session led by a librarian or archivist. This program alone, will allow the Library to reach approximately 60% of pre-major students. This is the only mandatory instruction program in the Yale Library that specifically addresses pre-majors. Approximately 20 librarians and archivists are involved in the teaching of these sessions.



Rewriting History

For over ten years the Library has supported Yale history majors through a two-part research education program. Participation in the program is mandatory for undergraduate history majors, and the requirement is fulfilled by completing a Library Orientation for History Majors and Senior Essay Library Colloquium. In the past year, Greg Eow and Sue Roberts have dramatically redesigned the program. The Library Orientation now incorporates archival materials from the Beinecke Rare Book Library, Manuscripts and Archives, and the Divinity Library to create an active learning environment in which students engage sources and discuss what it means to think like an historian. The Senior Essay, which once consisted of library classes, now consists of individual pairings of library staff and senior essayists. Each senior can now look forward to individual attention from librarians, archivists, and curators from throughout the YUL system, all of which have a background in the area of history in which the student is working.

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