Research Education for Study & Research Abroad

In 2009 the Library launched a new initiative to provide support to Yale College students taking courses or doing research abroad. The Library's International Program collaborated with the Center for International Experience and the Center for Language Study to create a multi-pronged approach including a series of drop-in orientation sessions, classroom presentations and a resource portal. All activities were specifically designed to fulfill the library and information needs of outbound students. Additionally, a "Field Librarian" was assigned to the over 500 students who were either taking a Yale Summer Session course abroad or traveling abroad on a research grant. USB flash drives containing specific resources (video tutorials, remote access VPN software, download/installation instructions, travel tips, etc.) were also provided for this community.

Embedded Librarian - Yale Center for British Art

For the past two semesters Ian McDermott, Assistant Librarian at the Yale Center for British Art Reference Library, has continued an "embedded librarian" program started by Chief Librarian Kraig Binkowski and Ian's predecessor, Jennifer Pollock. The program started when Pollock audited Prof. Tim Barringer's course and the two decided she would also serve as a library liaison for students in the class. Ian has continued this approach, working with Jo Briggs and Imogen Hart. In the two courses, Ian has served as auditor and the primary research contact for students. One benefit of this program is the increased subject knowledge acquired as an auditor but even more important is the relationship building between librarian, students and faculty. Both Professors Briggs and Hart introduced Ian to the class as a valuable resource and they worked collaboratively with him on the creation of research sessions. Additionally, course-specific LibGuide pages were created to assist students. Based on its success thus far, this program will continue in the coming semesters.

Book Review


We all wish that our instruction sessions could be course-integrated but the reality for most of us is the one-shot session. This highly practical, 20-step guide for designing the one-shot instructional workshop addresses assessing needs, writing objectives, evaluation tools, selection of teaching methods, session evaluation and much more. Each of the 20 steps is thoroughly discussed and includes special features such as case studies, tips, quotes, illustrations, checklists and exercises. Check out the both the book and accompanying website.