

Literacy Grant Final Report

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May 9, 2011

Project Summary: I have been awarded a stipend to integrate an information literacy component into *COUN 502: Counseling Theories*. This class is a required graduate class for the students who enroll in these programs: school counseling, rehabilitation counseling and community mental health counseling. I have been teaching this course for four years now. Based on the Post Modern Educators model and my own observations in the classroom, my students seem to learn best when I provide a “learning-centered” classroom environment geared toward significant opportunities for students to strengthen their learning process through technology.

Project Timeline:

Goals: In order to provide information literacy skills for my students, particularly on the knowledge of digital copyright and make a proper attribution on digital materials, Professor Yarmey worked with me and my students throughout the semesters (Spring 2011). Her literacy lectures were divided into two parts:

1. In the second week of this class, she came and gave a lecture on “Proper Use of Digital Materials,” which covered copyright regulations and proper attribution of photographs, video and audio clips, and other digital media. As part of the lecture, held in McGurrin Hall, room #209, Prof. Yarmey offered hands-on training so the students were able to experiment with websites and search tools that they could use to find digital materials for their projects.

Throughout the semester, while the students worked on their projects, Prof. Yarmey provided help and answered questions regarding citations and making references to the materials that the students selected.

The students were required to submit their first draft on their chosen counseling theories on the DVD format with their storyboard file. Prof. Yarmey helped me correct the students’ citations section on both digital images and the APA references, particularly on the narration of their theories.

2. Before the final draft of the assignment was due, Prof. Yarmey returned to give another lecture and offered her feedback based on the students’ first draft DVD work on how the students could correct their mistakes on the copyright and APA citation issues.

Assessment:

Students were given short evaluation Likert scale form which aimed to assess their understanding specifically on the information literacy issue and Prof. Yarmey’s lectures. The table below reflected the outcome.

QUESTION	1 Strongly Disagree	2 Disagree	3 Neutral	4 Agree	5 Strongly Agree	MEAN
I improved my information literacy skills in this class.	0	1	4	8	1	3.7
Professor Yarmey's lectures were clear.	0	1	5	5	3	3.7
I understand better now how important it is to find the proper search engine for the digital images that I used for completing my project.	0	0	2	7	5	4.2
I recognize now how important it is to make a proper citation on the digital materials that I used for my project.	0	0	1	7	6	4.4
The information literacy has helped me to complete my project successfully.	0	1	2	8	3	3.9

Number of responses= 14

Summary of Feedback from Open-Ended Questions

Please name what you believe to be the most important literacy skill or skills that you have learned as a result of this class and Professor Yarmey's lectures.

- How important copyright laws are pertaining to pictures and music. (Mentioned multiple times)
- Great websites- Creative commons and Flickr.
- Where to find content.
- I couldn't do this project without Professor Yarmey's tips.
- How to limit searches for certain usage rights, which limits time searching for images.
- I have a better understanding of theories.
- Being able to search under creative licensing- knowing what sites to use and how to make sure what you find is actually useable.
- The use of citations because of copyrighted material.
- How to use Photo Story 3 along with proper copyright info.
- Not going to jail because we copied pirated material.

Please list anything that you would have liked to learn more about to increase your understanding of information literacy.

- More about proper APA citations for music and pictures.

- I was a little confused on where to find creative commons for music so maybe if there was a specific website provided.
- Would have liked to learn how to cite music properly within the project.
- I was curious to learn more about 'how' to do things such as find websites like Flickr on my own.
- How to put video in digital storytelling.
- Recording and how to cut down music. I had so many troubles in these areas and wished there was more guidance.
- I would have liked her to be more specific about what we can and cannot use and if there would be consequences if we used more than 30 seconds of a song.
- Would have liked there to be two rough drafts before the final project; one early and one in the middle of the semester than one at the end.
- How to use music under copyright.

Analysis of Assessment: Overall, the students rated positively on how important to learn and proper handle the digital copyright and attribution issues when they used them in their classroom project. They expressed their gratefulness toward the help they received from Prof. Yarmey. As indicated in the table mentioned above, Prof. Yarmey received highly rating from the students.

Conclusion:

- a) Students demonstrated the understanding of information literacy competencies.
- b) Students shared what they learned with fellow students outside the classroom.
- c) I am committed to continuing including the literacy information in teaching this class in the Fall 2011.

I would like to express my gratitude that the library sub-committee on information literacy for awarding me the library grant. Additionally, I would like to thank Prof. Yarmey for her assistance, enthusiasm, professionalism and time that she extended to help me and my students. It was a positive and pleasurable experience to work with her.