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ABSTRACT

These checklists developed by the Association of College and Research Libraries to provide guidelines for the organization of a bibliographic instruction program cover the following areas: (1) preliminary planning, including needs assessment and research; (2) developing goals and objectives; (3) gaining and maintaining support from within and outside the library; (4) administering the program, including staffing, budgeting, space requirements, and publicity; (5) instructional methods and materials; (6) instructor training; and (7) evaluating the program. (MES)



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ORGANIZING AND MANAGING A LIBRARY INSTRUCTION PROGRAM: CHECKLISTS

Revised Edition 1986

Association of College and Research Libraries Bibliographic Instruction Section Continuing Education Committee

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INTRODUCTION

"Organizing and Managing a Library Instruction Program"

These checklists were developed originally by the Bibliographic Instruction Section Continuing Education Committee for a preconference in 1979 when library instruction was still a new concept for many academic libraries. The checklists as a separate publication have been used successfully by many librarians since then. However, library instruction no longer is considered a "new" concept in the field of academic librarianship. Over the last ten years a wealth of information has been added to the literature. When the ACRL Standards and Accreditation Committee forwarded the checklists for review this year, the current Continuing Education Committee decided to revise them to reflect new approaches, practices, and technologies in library user education. As a result, the checklists are now a product of two committees and many experienced instruction librarians.

The checklists are meant to be very practical, thought-provoking tools. They do not attempt to provide full information but, rather, to act as guidelines to the organization of a program. The checklists serve several functions. Some of the lists offer possible alternatives from which to choose, such as those on instructional modes and materials. Others provide points of consideration, such as those on writing goals and objectives. Since each chapter was authored by a different Committee member, writing styles vary somewhat. The chapters have been edited to conform to a standard format and lexicon.

The Committee hopes that these checklists will continue to be helpful to instruction librarians, and that they will be used in continuing education activities.

Karen Williams, Chair 1985-87
ACRL BIS Continuing Education Committee
Editor of Revised Edition



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American Library Association Association of College and Research Libraries Bibliographic Instruction Section Continuing Education Committee

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CHAPTER ONE PRELIMINARY PLANNING

"The ability to find information is probably as important as the information itself."

An analysis of the characteristics of the potential audience for instruction and their instructional needs is an essential part of the preliminary planning process. Listed below are some factors to be considered during this stage of the planning process.

A. NEEDS ASSESSMENT - Quantitative aspects. To assist the planner in determining the size of the potential audience. 1. Primary audience ___ # of undergraduate students enrolled at college/university # cf graduate students enrolled ____ total student enrollment _ # of faculty ____ # of staff ___ others in college/university community Total 2. Analysis of primary audience freshmen __ sophomores __ juniors ___ seniors __ others ___ SUBTOTAL ___ masters _ doctoral _ other programs __ SUBTOTAL TOTAL ___ full-time students ___ part-time students ___ live on campus ___ live within 20 minutes of campus __ commute over 20 minutes ____ age group 18 - 22 ___ age group 23 - 29 ____ age group over 30 ___ new faculty ___ senior faculty ____ international students ____ physically handicapped students



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other special user groups (specify)

	3.	Audience grouped by discipline	Undergrad	<u>Grad</u>	<u>Total</u>
		biological sciences physical sciences social sciences		**************************************	
		computer science fine arts humanities	••••		
		engineering business/management			-
		professional programs other (specify) TOTAL			
	4.	Secondary audience			
		extension students students from other colleges/u business patrons community patrons others (specify) TOTAL	miversities		
В.	pot	EDS ASSESSMENT - Qualitative consideration tential audience. To assist the placement of library instruction effort	anner in deter		
	1.	Users' current knowledge of physical	_	of library	Ī
		minimal - never used the libra average - knows a little about above average - fairly independent	: library arrar	ngement	
	2.	Users' current knowledge of publi materials	c service unit	s by fu	unctions and
		circulation policies reference assistance serials			
		government documents interlibrary loan media/a.v. materials			
		media/a.v. materials other (specify)			
	3.	Types of instruction students have h	ad within pres	sent insti	itution
		library tour handouts: floor plans, bibliog point-of-use instruction workbook audiovisual programs classroom instruction other (specify)	raphies, handl	oook, etc.	
		none			



4.	Users' attitudes toward library and library staff
	negative - "do it for me" intimidated or embarressed indifferent open-minded - willing to learn enthusiastic
5.	Users' expectations of library
	leisure reading study hall reserve readings support for coursework assistance in locating information research use of materials
	MAT OTHERS ARE DOING AND HAVE DONE
1.	Literature review
	Bibliographic Instruction Section (BIS) publications Assoc. of College & Research Libraries (ACRL) publications Library Instruction Roundtable (LIRT) publications Library Orientation-Instruction Exchange (LOEX) publications RSR Annual Bibliography of Library Instruction online databases library literature indexes current issues of key periodicals other (specify)
2.	Consult colleagues and other knowledgeable individuals/consultants
3.	Attend conferences and workshops: local, regional, and national
4.	

Michael Fineman May 1986



CHAPTER TWO DEVELOPING GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

It is very important to write formal educational goals and objectives for a bibliographic instruction component. This chapter shows how to write broad goals for initiating or improving a program, and more specific instructional objectives; both of which are necessary for successful program development, administration, and evaluation.

A.	GOALS DESCRIBE A DESIRED STATE OF AFFAIRS AND WILL BE USED:
	to determine feasibility of a program to implement a program to improve or expand an existing program to seek approval of the program from outside funding agencies, college and library administration, library staff, and faculty to provide information concerning the effectiveness of instruction and the skills developed by students to measure attainment of objectives
в.	EXAMPLES OF GOALS TO CONSIDER FOR THE BIBLIOGRAPHIC INSTRUCTION COMPONENT INCLUDE:
	to design instructional materials to facilitate learning of library resources and search skills to maintain liaison with appropriate academic departments to evoke a positive impression of the library to ensure that instruction librarians are adequately trained in teaching methodology (instructional techniques)
c.	EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES ARE SPECIFIC MEASURABLE DESCRIPTIONS OF ACTIVITIES WHICH REFLECT MOVEMENT TOWARD STATED GOALS.
	1. These objectives represent knowledge or skills to be mastered. For example:
	to enable students to use reference tools to answer immediate information needs to enable students to acquire expertise in search techniques to enable students to use bibliographic tools in their area of major interest
	2. Well constructed objectives use descriptive terms referring to specific results which are measurable, and behavior which is observable.
	to write to identify to solve to differentiate



J.	specifications as:
	given a list of given any reference of the learner's choice given a standard set of tools without the aid of references
4.	A criterion statement, or standard of performance, indicating a minimum acceptable performance is included for each objective, i.e.:
	a time limit minimum number of correct responses, or minimum percentage of correct responses, or minimum proportion of correct responses

Marilyn Lutz May 1986



CHAPTER THREE GAINING AND MAINTAINING SUPPORT

Gaining and maintaining support are absolutely essential to the success of the bibliographic instruction program in the library and across campus. Commitment to the program is first necessary from within the library. Good communication, cooperation, and participation help ensure commitment. Below are some factors to consider when assessing internal and external support.

A. WITHIN THE LIBRARY

1. Commitment among library staff; communication and cooperation
Has the process of generating the goals and objectives involved representative library staff?
Have the goals and objectives statements been clearly articulated and publicized?
Has the library staff been kept informed about activities, plans, achievements by articles in library newsletters and other means of communication?
Are the views of library staff not directly involved in instruction actively sought?
Have notes of appreciation and thank-you's from faculty and students been circulated to the heads of units and other members of library administration.
Do the staff orientation and/or development programs include an explanation of the bibliographic instruction program?
B. OUTSIDE THE LIBRARY
1. Communication and liaison with faculty and campus administrators
Are attractive brochures and handouts describing the instruction program regularly distributed to departmental faculty and to other campus staff?
Are other communication channels (newsletters, letters, personal interviews, explanations at departmental meetings) regularly employed?
Do library staff, as members of pertinent campus committees (such as Undergraduate Curriculum Committee or General Education Committee), actively represent the interests and benefits of bibliographic instruction?
Are departmental faculty eligible to be members of the bibliographic instruction committees?



		Are library instructional publications and research guides routinely distributed to appropriate departmental faculty?
2.	Demons	stration of the need for bibliographic instruction
		Are class assignments, detected at the reference desk, pursued with classroom instructors to determine if library instruction is necessary?
		Are practical examples of demonstrated need collected and shared with classroom instructors and administrators?
		Is formal documentation of the need for bibliographic instruction, as reported in the professional literature, shared with departmental faculty and administrators?
		Has a formal needs assessment and/or library skills proficiency evaluation of students been conducted and the results disseminated to departmental faculty and administrators?
	•	Have departmental faculty been interviewed to determine their understanding of B.I. activities and services; their assessment of student library research skills and needs; or their assessment of curricular offerings which require library research skills
		Have Lepartmental syllabi been collected and assessed to learn more about course content and requirements, especially assignments which do or might require library use?

Useful source: Breivik, Patricia Senn. "The Politics of Library Instruction" in Planning the Library Instruction Program. Chicago: American Library Association, 1982.

Fonnie Gratch ay 1986



CHAPTER FOUR ADMINISTRATION OF A PROGRAM

This chapter covers the basic considerations of administration and staffing, budgeting, space requirements and publicity.

A. ADMINISTRATION AND STAFFING

1.	The bibliographic instruction program will be administered by:									
	coordinator of instruction hired for that purpose designated public service librarian rotating responsibility									
	committee other (specify)									
2										
٠.	The bibliographic instruction coordinator's title will be:									
3.	The bibliographic instruction program coordinator reports to the:									
	Head of Reference									
	Director of Public Services									
	Chief Librarian or Library Director									
	Other (specify)									
4.	Participation of staff members in the instructional program									
	Who participates?									
	reference librarians									
	other public service librarians									
	non-public service librarians									
	library support staff									
	graduate library school students other (specify)									
	Other (specify)									
	How will they participate?									
	program planning									
	developers/reviewers of mission and goals statements									
	developers of yearly objectives statements									
	instructional designers presenters of library orientation/instruction									
	authors/reviewers of printed, A/V, or computer-assisted									
	instruction materials									
	members of program review/evaluation team									
	monitors and reviewers of instructional sessions									
	Is there flexibility and reciprocity in staffing patterns?									
	non-instructional staff serve in instructional service									
	positions/roles									
	instructional staff serve in non-instructional service positions									



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э.	Are there enough instructors participating
	to meet the "start-up" demand to meet the potential demand
6.	Are participating staff members being given released time from their regularly scheduled duties
	to plan curriculum to develop materials to teach
7.	Other program responsibilities that must be assumed or assigned and carried out include
	maintaining liaison with central library administration maintaining liaison with appropriate academic departments developing and revising materials developing and maintaining a resource center training staff members to be effective teachers keeping statistics on B.I. program activities preparing annual reports other (specify)
BU.	DGETING
	dgeting should be done as goals and objectives are written. Budget ould be clearly designated for library instruction.
1.	Staff: full-time, part-time, released time
	coordinator \$ library instructors support (non-student) staff student assistants
2.	Materials
	supplies: paper, paints, lettering sets audiovisual supplies audiovisual equipment (includes computers) publication costs: photocopy, printing
3.	How much professional and/or staff time is needed to develop
	guides handbooks self-guided tours workbook bibliographies slide/tape program videotape



В.

	4.								r already own and need to eens, tape recorders, etc)
			Re	ent	Ow	m	B	uy	
		slide programs					Y	-	\$
			Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	•
		slide/tape programs							
		films	Ÿ	N	Ÿ	N	Y	N	
							Y		
		transparencies	Ÿ	N	Ÿ	N	Y	N	
				N		N		N	
	5.	Cost to library for pr (Include both design	odu ar	ction	on or eprod	pu:	rchase	e: osts)
		guides	\$						
		handbooks	Υ_				-		
		self-guided tours	-			_	-		
		workbook	-				-		
		bibliography	_				_		
		slide/tape program					_		
		video tape					_		
		transparencies					_		
		C.A.I. program	_				-		
	То	determine cost per use	r ć	livi	ie to	tal	cost	by 1	projected number of users.
	7.	Cost per year to updat	e n	ate	rials	}			
		guides	¢						
		handbooks	₽_			_	_		
		self-guided tours	-				-		
		workbook	-		_		-		
		bibliography	-				-		
		slide-tape program	-				_		
		video tape	-				-		
		transparencies	-				_		
		C.A.I. program	-				_		
		ourset broken	-		-		-		
c.	SP	ACE							
	1.	Meeting room will be							
		classroom where classroom within group gathering consulting space other	li spa	ibra: ice v	ry Withi	n 1:	ibrar		.

	2. Private consultation for instructors and students will be done
	in library instructor's office in library classroom when available other
D.	PUBLICITY
	1. To the library staff will done through
	announcements and discussions in meetings newsletters, brochures, fliers, posters, etc. one-to-one discussion other
	2. Will go to the following departmental faculty
	those who teach courses involved with library instruction those who teach any subject those in attendance at faculty meetings those attending annual colloquia for classroom faculty on library user education
	3. To the departmental faculty in the following manner
	through personal letters by telephone contact one-to-one when faculty member is in library faculty office visits or departmental visits by librarians
	4. To the students in the following manner
	signs/posters in library hand-outs (in library or other campus buildings) through student newspaper one-to-one discussions in or outside library other (specify)

Cindy Schatz May 1986



CHAPTER FIVE INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND MATERIALS

Below is a list of some of the most commonly stated purposes (objectives) of library instruction. Following are descriptive lists of commonly used methods and materials. The purposes for instruction should be clearly identified first, then methods and materials chosen according to which will best accomplish the stated purposes.

A. PURPOSES FOR INSTRUCTION

	information needs to provide exposure to many reference materials to acquire expertise in search techniques to use major bibliographic tools in student's academic subject area to become familiar with a core of general reference tools to provide guidance in the development of a search strategy to acquaint students with basic search techniques to meet the specific needs of a particular course to teach the use of a computerized bibliographic database,
	e.g. online catalog, Dialog searching to instruct students in writing term papers to enable student to use major interdisciplinary bibliographic tools to enable students to use a particular tool without the aid of
	a librarian to enable students to learn how to use a reference tool at the time they actually need to use the tool to expose students to the library to evoke a positive impression of the library to teach location of departments/materials to familiarize faculty with library services and collections other
В.	FACTORS TO CONSIDER IN SELECTING A METHOD OF INSTRUCTION audience (freshmen, graduate students, faculty, etc.) number of students to be reached depth of instruction required by student to meet information need amount of allotted time student has for participation manageable student/instructor ratio availability of instruction classroom space preparation time required of instructor immediacy of student information need
	extent to which instruction must relate to classroom course work effectiveness of mode in terms of retention of material adaptability to evaluation techniques effectiveness of instruction mode learning style of student other



C. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

These represent broad, general descriptions, each of which could be further refined.

<u>Individual</u> consultation: one-to-one instruction in the use of information resources initiated by an inquiry at the reference desk or as part of a formal consultation program. Teaching methods include explanation and demonstration of materials and use one library instructor for one student.

<u>Workbooks:</u> In-depth self-paced instruction in the use of information resources. This method uses guided or programmed self-study. The actual text and assignments can be printed, or, computer-assisted-instruction (CAI) can be used.

<u>Lecture:</u> One hour (or one class period) of instruction on library research (generally course related). The lecture can stand alone, or be combined with a tour or hands-on experience.

<u>Workshops:</u> Introduction to basic sources of information in a given subject area or format, e.g. documents, software, mircroforms, computer searching. Usually considered more in-depth than a lecture and can last longer than the traditional one hour.

Course: In-depth instruction in the use of information resources relevant to either a general interdisciplinary survey or a particular area. Longer and more in-depth than a workshop, often offered for credit. Methods used include lecture, assignments necessitating the library use by students, a/v programs, CAI, demonstrations.

<u>Point-of-use:</u> Instructional materials made available at the spot where a particular tool will be used. The instructions can be in written, a/v, kit, or CAI formats.

Tour: General introduction to building, library, personnel, services. Walking tours can be done by an instructor or an audiotape, or students can be shown films or use CAI programs.

D. FACTORS TO CONSIDER WHEN SELECTING INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

 number of students to be reached
 need to supplement instruction already being given
need to provide students with an end product from a library
instruction session (i.e. bibliographies)
 need to provide instruction to those who cannot be reached in a
 traditional manner
 size of instructional staff
 preparation time necessary
availability of equipment
 effectiveness of the material
 ability to meet the perceived needs of the present or anticipated
instructional program
amount of money available for instructional materials



	ease of maintainance/update facilities available for using equipment classroom space available cost to student (if applicable) other	
E.	INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS	
	library guides search strategy guides bibliographies search problems course syllabus textbook workbook or programmed instruction pre-test/post-test bibliographic tools A/V materials syllabus with assignment computer terminal, modem, software audiovisual equipment handbook floor plan self-guided tour with written instructions or using cassett tape other	e
F.	QUALITY OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS	
	are they accurate? of good quality (color, sound, etc.) attractive well written with clear directions flow logically from one point to another easy to use (if equipment is involved) readable durable current	

Carolyn Fields May 1986



CHAPTER SIX TEACHING INSTRUCTORS TO TEACH

This section provides guidelines for the training aspect of the bibliographic instruction program. Presently, professional library education usually includes at least an introduction to these services. Since many librarians have not had the opportunity for formal coursework and supervised practice in instruction, this section assumes even greater value for the overall planning of the local library instruction program.

Training programs may include components on learning theories and current theories of information organization, as well as general innovations in education. These programs help library staff to increase their knowledge of teaching methods, to develop the ability to calculate the parameters and complexity of material to be covered with a particular groups of students, and to refine presentation skills. Training programs can also be used to establish both standards for teaching among instructors and guidelines for evaluation.

A.	PREREQUISITES FOR THE PROGRAM					
		1.	Library staff members interested and willing to take part.			
		2.	At least one librarian to coordinate the program, recruit personnel, motivate participation, and possibly do the training. This person should be attached to, or in close contact with, the Reference Department to maintain daily contact with instructional needs.			
		3.	An administration willing to sustain the program with			
			a. funding to hire additional librart staff for instruction commit released time to participating library staff for marketing, preparation and teaching			
			b Moral support by encouraging department heads, for example, to recognize it as an important activity of academic unit			
		4.	Department heads throughout the system willing to			
			a. release library staff to enable them to take part in the program			
			b. allow time, after library staff have completed the program, to enable them to prepare and teach classes			
			c. provide recognition of services performed by teaching library			



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staff

В.	LIBRARY STAFF WILL BE TRAINED BY	
	the person selected as coordinator qualified personnel from other academic departments, such Education faculty or Communication Arts faculty a professional consultant hired to do the training a combination of any or all of the above	. as
c.	CONTENT OF TRAINING PROGRAM	
	learning theory presentation skills teaching techniques use of instructional technologies classroom management motivation lesson plans other	
D.	PHYSICAL FACILITIES FOR TRAINING LIBRARY STAFF	
	a. Space for meeting classroom conference room . other suitable space	Ç
	b. Equipment chalkboard, chalk and erasers flip chart, masking tape, wall space video camera and playback equipment slide projector tape recorder overhead projector microcomputers 16 mm film projector	
	c. Other teaching aids prepared posters slides, audio and video tapes, transparencies slide/tape shows sample materials, such as catalog cards, indexes handouts C.A.I. or C.B.E. software programs	
E.	OTHER THINGS TO CONSIDER	
	commitment of library supervisory personnel time commitment of participants recruitment and selection of participants motivation of participants	



 future involvement by trainees in the bibliographic instruction
program
 cost of training program
 ongoing training to keep participants updated in their presentations
 availability of consultant services within the college or university
 to design instructional aids, including computer programs
 vehicles for sharing experiences by participants
 continuous evaluation of participants' teaching methods and manner of presentation
 feedback presented in manner most appropriate to individual and group improvement
 elements of other sections of this checklist as relevant to time and place of bibliographic instruction program application

Nancy Coxe May 1986



CHAPTER SEVEN EVALUATING A LIBRARY INSTRUCTION PROGRAM

The purpose of this checklist is to outline the major elements which must be considered when planning the evaluation of a bibliographic instruction unit or program. It is not necessary to be an expert to succeed at evaluation. Advanced planning will ensure success.

A.	PRINCIPAL AUDIENCE FOR EVALUATION (Who sees the evaluation)					
	library administrators B.I. librarians other librarians university administrators students outside funding agency departmental faculty					
в.	WHY IS THE EVALUATION BEING UNDERTAKEN					
	to determine whether goals and objectives are being achieved or need to be reassessed to improve the quality of the program to justify the purpose of the program to determine the need for expanding a program					
c.	C. WHAT IS BEING EVALUATED					
	program content products of library use (bibliographies, term paper grades) process (have students utilized the most efficient techniques for finding information) instructors (delivery, time management, effective explanations, interaction with students, attitude, etc.) student attitudes toward the library efficiency/cost effectiveness of program program as a whole program quality					
D.	RELATING AVALUATION TO GOALS AND OBJECTIVES					
	A. State the General Instructional Objectives. Prepare a list of relevant learning objectives and review the list for 1) completeness 2) appropriateness 3) soundness 4) feasibility					
	B. State Specific Learning Outcomes. List the specific types of performance students should be able to demonstrate when they have achieved the objective.					
	C. Relate Evaluation Procedures to Objectives. Try to obtain a good match between student performance as measured by the evaluation instrument and specific learning outcomes.					



E.	TIPES OF EVALUATION
	A. Formative (directed toward improving learning and instruction; typically used during planning stages or instructional process).
	B. Summative (comes at the end of course or unit of instruction; designed to determine extent to which learning objectives have been achieved)
F.	EVALUATION DESIGN: A design is essentially a plan for conducting the evaluation. A design will ensure a well organized evaluation study and provide a way of gathering comparative information. Elements of design which the evaluator must consider are:
	groups; who will be measured, tested, observed times; when (before, during or after the program) will the measurements be made
G.	WHAT INSTRUMENTS WILL BE USED TO COLLECT INFORMATION
	paper and pencil tests a. standardized b. teacher made assignments questionnaires/surveys personal interviews with students or instructors observation of students as they use the library follow-up studies
н.	CHARACTERISTICS OF INSTRUMENT - Regardless of type of instrument or how results are to be used, all measurements should possess
	Validity (refers to the appropriateness of the interpretation of the results of a test or evalution instrument)
	Reliability (refers to consistency of measurement, how consistent are test scores and other evaluation results from one measurement to another)
	Usability (refers to practical considerations such as ease of administration, time required for administration, ease of scoring, ease of interpretation, cost, etc.)
ı.	DATA MANAGEMENT AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS
	compile and collate information choose appropriate statistical procedures and analyses perform analyses record and tabulate results interpret findings



J,	RESOURCES	FOR	SUMMARIZING	AND	INTERPRETING	DATA
	comp	pute	campus expenses and statis		al packages	

Barbara Celone May 1986

