EN 121 - Library Sessions

Introduction

My name is Luke Beatty, and I’m an Outreach Librarian here at Illinois College. In conjunction with your regular Professor, Cynthia Cochran, I’ll be teaching five sessions of your EN 121: Principles of Writing class. I’ll also be marking part(s) of your Researched Argument Paper and your Annotated Bibliography. Our Library session itinerary is as follows:

Thursday, October 16th / Sturtevant 103: Introduction, Topic Selection, & Keywords

We’ll do a brief Library orientation, followed by some strategies for selecting research topics and keywords. Topic selection is foundational to your research, but oftentimes gets lost in the shuffle. A well-chosen topic can save you a lot of hassle down the road; a poorly chosen topic can really complicate your research experience.

Wednesday, October 29th / Schewe 210: Books & Catalog

The Schewe and I-Share catalogs are instrumental to your research at Illinois College, and today we’ll learn how to use them. We’ll also learn some nifty searching tricks, which will make your searching more efficient.

Thursday, October 30th / Schewe 210: Databases & Journal Articles

What is a journal article? Why are my Professors always harping on about scholarly articles? Why can’t I just use books? These questions, and more, will be answered to your (dis)satisfaction!

Friday, October 31st / Schewe 210: The Internet & Evaluating Websites

Today, we’ll discuss what makes a website “good” (and, conversely, what makes a website “bad”). I’ll also impart some serious Google knowledge on you, and your life will never be the same. Guaranteed!

Friday, November 7th / Schewe 210: Stats, Data, & Citation

Gathering statistics and data can be a particularly frustrating part of your research. To give you a leg up, we’ll go over some strategies for identifying (and ultimately finding) good statistical/data sources. We’ll also touch on some citation resources, which will make writing your papers a little less stressful.

Where to Find Me

Email: luke.beatty@mail.ic.edu

Phone: 217-245-3573 (this is a landline, so it WILL NOT accept texts)

Office: It’s not an “office”, per se, but I’m located behind the Circulation Desk in Schewe Library.