

Academic Libraries as Hubs of Innovation and Engagement: Workshopping Information Literacy to High School Educators

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Addressing Community Need

- Teacher surveys reflected a growing need for K-12 instructor and media specialist training in primary source literacy.
- Community classroom instruction conducted by UNCG librarians had been well received – but it was decided that educator workshops would have a broader impact.

Identifying Stakeholders to Partner with Educator Workshops

- Community – local county school district and curricula coordinators
- Campus – library and humanities faculty
- Colleagues – networks of librarians and archivists from across the state, incorporating instructional approaches from the areas of special collections, digital projects, and reference and instruction



Campus Classroom to Community Classroom

As academic librarians have adopted the Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education into instructional sessions, they have become aware that students are struggling to locate, evaluate, and utilize primary sources. Librarians and archivists at UNC Greensboro, a research-intensive state university, were able to bring skills being taught in campus classrooms to community classrooms through educator workshops. This poster examines the development and implementation of these highly collaborative workshops, which presented area high school teachers and media specialists with the tools to incorporate information literacies into their class curricula, directly impacting student success.



Implementing Teacher Workshops

- Developed on-campus workshops that modeled a cohesive program concentrating on how information literacies can be incorporated into the classroom.
- Aligned student learning objectives with state/district teaching standards.
- Teachers/media specialists attended the workshops in school “teams,” promoting interdisciplinary instruction.
- Workshop sessions were woven together around a central theme of African American history and Civil Rights.



Assessment and Next Steps

- Assessment found attendees more open to adopting a holistic approach to teaching critical thinking and research methods.
- Responding to attendee feedback, future workshops will include a STEM/Humanities and digital storytelling focus.
- A partnership between UNC Greensboro and the State Library will bring educator workshops to underserved school districts.