Faculty Needs Assessment

Where Distance Students Learn Library/Research Skills

- Students don’t need special library skills for my classes.
- I direct students to contact a librarian for help.
- I believe students will ask a librarian for help if needed.
- I believe that students at this level already have the skills they need.
- I teach library skills to my students.
- In-class orientation by library faculty.

Barriers to Using Library Services/Resources

- Other
- My students have access to a community college library.
- My students lack the technological skills or equipment to use the library effectively from a distance.
- I am not aware of library services to support Outreach education.
- Procedures to use the library are too complicated for me.
- Procedures to use the library are too complicated for students.
- I had not considered using the library for support.
- Library does not provide materials my students need.
- Lack of online materials (e.g. textbooks, journal articles).
- Copyright clearance.

Quotes from instructors about student problems with accessing student library resources

"I usually don’t hear much...most have figured it out, the rest use Google Scholar."

"My students are upper division undergraduates and graduate students. They find the library web site easy to use (and especially like the new look—as I do). The only catch sometimes is they initially overlooking the button for off campus access so that they can actually upload PDF files from articles they find in the online database searches. But, this is pretty minor and it is resolved easily."

"I teach an introduction course in our program, students report being surprised and genuinely pleased at the availability of library resources, ease of use, and accessibility and helpfulness of reference librarians."

"The mere fact of distance for Wyoming students is daunting. I also think that Wyoming students are not accustomed to using libraries. It’s very difficult to convince students that the internet is not a substitute for library research."

University of Wyoming Enrollment Statistics

End of Semester Enrollment • Fall 2009
Men: 5,945  Women: 7,531
Full-time: 9,613  Part-time: 3,863
Residents: 9,991  Non-residents: 3,194
Undergraduates: 9,793  Graduates: 3,240
Professionals: 443
International: 641
Minorities: 1,089
New Freshmen: 1,594
New Transfers: 1,095

University of Wyoming New Freshmen • Summer 2009
High School GPA: 3.43
Fall-to-fall retention: 72.1%
Six-year graduation rate: 52.6%

UW Outreach School Degree Programs • Summer 2009
Undergraduate: 9  Graduate: 12
Certificate Programs: 7
Endorsements: 6  Minors: 1

Statistics on Distance Learning in Wyoming • Fall 2009
Total Enrollment: 12,427 (17% distance learners)
Laramie enrollment: 10,343
UW Casper College enrollment: 306
Other Outreach sites: 1,778