

Merrill-Cazier Library

The Library Instruction Program is continuing its collaborative efforts to integrate information literacy instruction into the English 1010 and English 2010 course sequence. English 2010 is often taken during the second year, and many students struggle with developing good research questions and locating high-quality, relevant information. The Library has been working closely with the English Department to develop learning activities and assignments that engage students, integrate the writing and the research process, and help students learn vital information skills that are a foundation of college success and lifelong learning. We have developed successful problem-based learning activities that English instructors can easily integrate into their course. In 2006-2007, we are working with the English Department in their textbook selection process, as they explore a common textbook for adoption in English 2010. We will also be working on better aligning the learning goals and curriculum between English 1010 and 2010.

The Library Instruction Program is working with the General Education Subcommittee to better integrate information literacy into the Breadth course requirements. An audit of syllabi conducted in 2005-2006 suggested that most courses do not adequately address the information literacy requirement for Breadth courses. A task force of librarians and faculty members will meet in 2007 to clarify learning goals and develop teaching strategies and activities for Breadth courses. The primary goal is to coordinate information literacy instruction in Breadth courses with English 1010 and 2010, so that students are introduced to concepts and skills at the appropriate time and in a meaningful and useful sequence. While not focused only on second-year students, Breadth courses are a major element of coursework in the first two years of college at USU and provide an important opportunity to engage students and assist in their transition to upper-level coursework.