Apr 6th, 12:00 AM

Data Information Literacy: Developing Data Information Literacy Programs

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Developing Data Information Literacy Programs

Jake Carlson
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## Background


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Data Information Literacy Grant

- What knowledge and skills with data will graduate students need to be successful?
- What roles could librarians play in teaching these skills?

5 Case Studies:  
http://docs.lib.purdue.edu/dilcs/
Semester Long DIL Courses

- Taught with Marianne Stowell Bracke, Ag Librarian
- Not for credit
- Students had to apply and were given stipends by the College of Ag

- Taught with Sara Samuel, Engineering Librarian & Joanna Thielen, ULA
- 2 credit special topics course offered through the CLaSP department
Observations

• Overall, the DIL competencies are seen as important for students to develop.
• Overall, students do not receive formal training and are seen as lacking in DIL competencies.
• Assumption that students should have acquired these competencies.
• Lack of formal policies in the research team.
• Self-directed learning through trial and error.
• Focus on data mechanics over deeper concepts.
Foundational Approaches

We believed that our program should:

• Center on the student’s role as data producer and manager

• Be contextualized through disciplinary standards and practices

• Have students use their own data
DIL Model

Planning: Env Scan

Planning: Interviews

Assessment

Implement Program

Develop Educational Program
Environmental Scan

Getting to know disciplinary culture better through exploring:

• Standards – Metadata, Formats, etc.
• Repositories – content, context
• Journal Publishers – policies, practices
• Scholarly Organizations – statements, conferences
• Literature Review

Image: https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/20140529232309-1443605-doing-environmental-scanning-part-1-focus-your-scanning
Interviews

Two possible purposes:
• Local cultures of practice
• Understand perceptions & priorities

Who to interview
• Faculty
• Students
• Other Stakeholders

Image: https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/20140529232309-1443605-doing-environmental-scanning-part-1-focus-your-scanning
Data Information Literacy Competencies

Data sharing

Skills may include:
Recognizes that data may have value beyond the original purpose, to validate research, or for use by others. Is familiar with the practices, values, norms and resources of his/her chosen field, discipline, or sub-discipline as you relate to sharing data. Understands and complies with data sharing mandates from funding sources. Knows how to cite a data set.

Please indicate how important you believe it is for you to be knowledgeable in this competency by the time you graduate:

1  2  3  4  5
Not important  Somewhat important  Important  Very important  Essential

I don’t know or NA

How would you describe your knowledge and skills in data sharing currently?

1  2  3  4  5
Deficient  Needs Improvement  Acceptable  Proficient  Outstanding

I don’t know or NA
Develop the Program

- Analyze the information you have collected
- Allocate Resources
  - Time
  - People
  - Space
- Develop Curriculum
- Manage Expectations

Image: http://nesit.org/nesit-build-party-1/
Outline for CLaSP 605

Resources

Time:
2 hour class – 14 Weeks

People (Guest Speakers):
• IT Specialist
• Data Visualization Expert
• Copyright Officer
• Director of Compliance

Space:
• Design Lab (In Library)
Implement the Program

• Use active learning and peer networks
• Flexible, responsive and student-driven
• Consider your stakeholders

Image: http://appcessful.com/
Lesson Plan from CLaSP 605

Week 3: January 21

Topic: Data Management Planning
Increasingly, funding agencies are requiring that researchers develop a data management plan to explain how they will develop their data set over the course of their research, how they will make their data available to others who may wish to view or use it themselves and how they will ensure long-term access to their data. In this session we will talk about these requirements and why they have come to exist, but more importantly we will talk about what comprises good data management planning more generally and how developing a plan can make one’s life easier.

Learning Outcomes:

- Students will be able to identify the components of a data management plan as defined by funding agencies such as the NSF, NASA and others.
- Students will be able to identify additional considerations in data management planning that may be relevant for their own research.
- Students will be able to apply their knowledge of data management planning in ways that satisfy the requirements of funding agencies, expectations of their research communities, and the environment of the laboratories in which they are working through developing effective data management plans.

Readings:

- “Jim Gray on eScience: A Transformed Scientific Method” in *The Fourth Paradigm* (pgs xvii - xxxi)
- White House Office of Science and Technology Policy February 2013 memo on “Increasing Access to the Results of Federally Funded Scientific Research”
- Brinley. Chapter 3: Planning for Data Management (pgs 16-34).

Optional reading:

- Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) “Guidelines for Creating Effective Data Management Plans”

Reflection: Week 3 Reflection: Data Management Planning

Homework: Homework 3: DMP Initial Draft

Slide Deck: Data Management Planning Session Presentation
Assessment

Formative:
• Initial Survey
• Assignments
• “Minute Papers”

Summative:
• End of Semester Focus Group
• Six Month Follow-up Interviews

Impact of the Course

‘...thinking about the data life cycle... I’d never really thought... past publication... [but] you make more data than you need and it has value for other people. So I think that was an eye opener.’
Lessons Learned

‘I thought it was valuable to see the big picture, but I agree [start with] the hands on. I was really uncomfortable trying to start with the big picture. I felt like I was drowning.’

Image credit: “Bigger is Better” https://www.flickr.com/photos/zachd1_618/5010039548
Why engage in DIL?

• It’s a service that’s needed – locally and externally.

• Entry point for building relationships with graduate students and faculty.

• It’s a way to gain a better understand how research is practiced.

• It’s a means to increase the impact of the library.
DIL Project Personnel

Principal Investigator:
• Jake Carlson – University of Michigan

Co-Principal Investigators:
• Camille Andrews – Cornell University
• Marianne Stowell Bracke – Purdue University
• Michael Fosmire – Purdue University
• Jon Jeffryes – University of Minnesota
• Lisa Johnston – University of Minnesota
• Megan Sapp Nelson – Purdue University
• Dean Walton – University of Oregon
• Brian Westra – University of Oregon
• Sarah Wright – Cornell University
Scenarios Exercise

1. At your tables, get into groups of 3-4 people.
2. Read through the scenario
3. Answer the following questions
   - What DIL related needs do you see in your scenario? What additional information would you want to collect?
   - What would your DIL program consist of? What might some of your learning objectives be?
   - How might your structure your program? Include considerations for time, space and people.