

English 1020 Library Research Instruction Project
Assessment Report, Fall, 2012

Introduction

Approximately 20 instructors teaching approximately 30 English 1020 sections on Main Campus, at The APSU Center @ Ft. Campbell and online, were contacted to request that they include library research instruction in their on-ground and online courses taught during Fall Semester, 2012. Follow-up communication outlined various ways that instruction might occur. Seven instructors teaching 11 on-ground sections responded. At the end of the semester, two surveys were administered. An instructor survey was completed by six instructors. A student survey was completed by 29 students.

Student Survey Results

83% responded that the session helped them do a better job on papers.
87% used **both** *English 1020 Research Guide* and *Literature Resource Center*.
53% used *RefWorks* to manage and properly document their sources.

Instructor Survey Results

100% believed that the session helped students to do a better job on their papers.
83% responded that they saw an improvement in their students' papers that might be attributed, at least in part, to the library research session.
83% responded that the students used higher quality sources in their papers, and that this might be attributed, at least in part, to using *Literature Resource Center*.
50% responded that improvement in management and organization of resources occurred, and that this improvement might be attributed, at least in part, to using *RefWorks*.

Background

The request by a library faculty that research instruction be included in English 1020 was made in response to the APSU General Education Critical Competencies Assessment Report. This report cites a need to improve students' research skills as part of the writing competency. The specific research skills being targeted are managing and properly documenting sources. Assessment of these critical competencies (written communication, oral communication, math skills, and critical thinking skills) is mandated by the Tennessee Board of Regents. Results are also reported to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), APSU's accrediting body.