COMM 3650 – Southern Popular Culture

Course Description - COMM 3650 – Southern Popular Culture (3 cr.). An in-depth examination of the American South as a definitive sub-culture. Analysis of social elements such as food, music, family, traditions, language, gender, and race. Special emphasis on analysis of representative books, rhetoric, plays, and films.

Scenario: Students are to present a 15-20 minute oral presentation, using up to ten resources, but no less than six, of which three must be scholarly articles and 3 articles with charts, graphs, photos or sound. Students note their resources in an MLA style bibliography. Students write down their presentation topic and the associated theses statement on the librarian’s instruction research exercise handout before coming to class.

The librarian uses the 2 page research guide as the exercise in class which covers concepts for searching data bases, searching for periodical articles and how to limit searches to image types; charts, graphs and photos.

LEARNING OUTCOMES (a=audience, b=behavior, c=condition, d=degree of accomplishment)

Following participation in an instruction session covering the use of online Popular Culture and other relevant databases’ subject guide search (c), students (a) will identify at least two major descriptor terms and where appropriate, at least one each of related, narrower or broader terms useful to their search (d) in order to demonstrate that they know how to select controlled vocabulary from the above mentioned databases (b).

By adding one concept to their search strategy and by limiting their search to document type in the exercise completed (d) during and after the instruction session (c), students (a) will demonstrate that they know how to add concepts and/or limit search results in order to narrow their searches further (b).

By correctly listing magazine and journal articles (d) following an instruction session covering use of the data bases (c), students (a) show that they are able to differentiate between the types of sources found in the Popular Culture and other databases (b).

Students (a) demonstrate that they know how to cite different types of sources (b) following the research session (c) by correctly citing all selected sources in MLA style (d).
ASSESSMENT: Completed MLA Works Cited page