Learning Outcomes

A. Describe the nature and extent of the information needed for a particular project or assignment.

B. Identify appropriate information sources and access needed information effectively and efficiently.

C. Articulate and apply criteria for evaluating both gathered information and its sources.

D. Engage in self-correcting searching behaviors during the stages of the research process based on a cycle of search/results analysis.

E. Demonstrate ability to conform to conventions relating to copyright and citation practice.
The Assessment Team:

Libraries:
* Urban Affairs Liaison Librarian
* Head of Libraries Instruction
* Library Assessment Graduate Intern
* Head of Libraries Assessment
* Libraries Instructional Designer

Urban Affairs/Communication Studies:
* Communication Studies Basic Course Director/Professor in Residence
* Adjunct Faculty & Graduate Asst.
Phase I Student Results:

99% of the students were able to choose a keyword for their topic; 84% were able to evaluate the information by identifying the author and affiliation; 88% correctly identified the presence of a bibliography and could identify the article as popular or scholarly; 96% provided satisfactory feedback when asked if they engaged in self-correcting search behavior; 44% used citation format correctly.

Although the students did fairly well (except citation practice), the quiz was structured more like a guide than an assessment instrument.
Phase II Student Results:

93% formulated a question based on their information need correctly; 65% identified key concepts and terms to describe their information need; 78% recognized that knowledge is organized into disciplines by browsing and using different databases; 53% chose the best database for their topic; 84% constructed two satisfactory searches using Boolean Login; 70% recognized the presence or absence of a bibliography and 64% correctly determined if their article was scholarly or popular and defend their declaration adequately; 13% of students correctly cited an article using APA format; 57% correctly cited articles using Chicago Manual style format.