COMMUNITY-BASED/EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING and INFORMATION LITERACY

6 points in 6 minutes: Bruce Gilbert, Professor of Librarianship, Drake University

1. What I did

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- 3-credit course
- During Jterm
- Approved by Appropriate committees

2. Why Experiential Learning?

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- Personal interest
- Desire to make Info Lit "real"
- Support/suggestions from Drake's EL people

3. How it Worked -Course Structure

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- "Hybrid" Approach, but mostly online
- Big Project: 12-15 page research paper
- Built around interview
- Had to research the area (business, nonprofit) first
- Let choose their own topic
- 3 1-week modules

4. How it Worked -Students

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- Course designed for FY students
- 8 students, some FY, some transfers
- Variety of majors, backgrounds

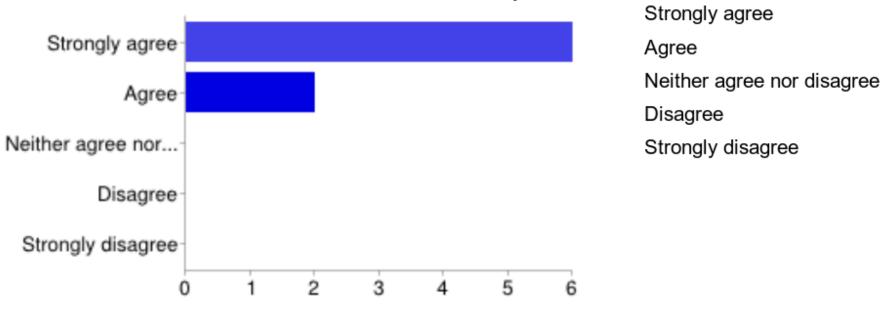
5. Outcomes - Work and Perceptions

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- Work was generally of high quality
- Not a one to one correlation between quality of work and personal value

5. Outcomes - Perceptions

Students liked the course and found it valuable



I would recommend this class to others as a Jterm experience.

General Responses

Course was very insightful and enlightening. I was able to get in touch with the professor very easily. The course was very well organized and the expectations were clearly communicated. I truly enjoyed this class. It was helpful that we got to pick our topic because most picked a topic they were passionate about. I did not mind writing the

6. Finally,

5. What would I do differently next time?

 Require students to interview someone they DIDN'T know!