



Economics Capstone Assignment



Frame(s): Searching as Strategic Exploration; Re-search as Inquiry	Level
Duration: 75 minutes	Discipline: Economics

Learning Objective:

Students can form a research question with an appropriate scope of investigation in the field of Economics.

Learning Outcomes for Lesson:

Students will test their initial brainstorm topics for practical viability by defining and refining their search language and strategies based on their initial results.

LESSON PLAN:

Pre-Instruction Preparation

- Librarian will have received from the lecturer and examined the students' initial topic brainstorms.

Instruction

- Review the goals of the assignment, previously presented to the class by the lecturer:
 - ⇒ Develop skills in critical thought, data analysis, and oral/written expression.
 - ⇒ Learn to recognize good research, dissect the bad, and produce your own more effectively and efficiently, even in "quick and dirty" projects.
- Briefly go over the elements of the assignment. Focus on elements where library research may be key.
- Review each student's Initial Brainstorm topic. Has the student done the following?
 - ⇒ Chosen an empirical topic or economic concept that interests the student?
 - ⇒ Identified an available data source as well as secondary material?
 - ⇒ Narrowed the topic to a manageable scope?
- Briefly present some recommended resources
 - ⇒ Appointments with a Reference Librarian are available
 - ⇒ Data sources
 - ⇒ Secondary literature sources
- Students then work on their own areas of interest to check for the viability of their topics.

Habits Addressed by this Lesson

- Session will help establish the following Habits:
 - ⇒ Recognize the broad range of information sources
 - ⇒ Exhibit mental flexibility
 - ⇒ Value the contributions of others
 - ⇒ Seek guidance from librarians, faculty and others